

jordan

Fourth Bilad ash-Sham Conference AOAS Executive Council starts at university on Saturday

Series of symposia will look at Byzantine, Umayyad periods

By Fadia Faqir
Special to the Star

AMMAN — The fourth international conference on Bilad ash-Sham (Greater Syria) will be held at the University of Jordan from 15-20 October. The conference will be under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein and its meetings will be chaired by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

A special joint committee of the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and Mutha University, and a co-ordination committee chaired by Professor Adnan Bakhit, have been set up to organize the conference and

to publish the results of the present and previous meetings on Bilad ash-Sham.

The conference will examine in detail the history of Bilad ash-Sham from the beginning of the Byzantine period until the end of the Umayyad era.

Professor Bakhit told The Star that the conference will be held for the sake of depth and precision, the organising committee has abandoned the idea of hosting a big conference and has chosen to treat each topic, covered from various angles, in the form of a symposium. For this reason the conference will be composed of a successive number of symposia.

The organising committee has already set the topics for the conference. They include the assessment of the source material in various languages, inscriptions and epigraphs, study of the status of research already done on the history of Bilad ash-Sham and an examination of the population distribution and the nature of the demography of the area under discussion. Taxation systems, agriculture and irrigation, industry and private enterprise will also be examined together with aspects of the religion, art and literature of the time.

The more than thirty participants from various countries, will also have the chance to enjoy field trips to the Archaeological Research Station of Yarmouk University at Deir 'Alla, the Martyrs Monument, Amman's museums, Umm Qeis, Jerash, Ajloun, Umm al-Jamal, Madaba, the desert castles, Petra and the Jordan Valley.

The idea of the Bilad ash-Sham conference was initiated in 1972 by Professor Adnan Bakhit, adopted by the Centre of Documents and Manuscripts, and later on, by the University of Jordan. The first conference was held at the University of Jordan in April 1974, the second was hosted by the University of Damascus and the third, in 1980, was held jointly by the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and the University of Damascus.

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Executive Council of the Arab Organization of Administrative Sciences (AOAS), which started its meetings in Amman on Saturday, has concentrated on three main topics, according to the organization's Director General Dr. Nasser Al-Sayegh. They are development research, training and consultations in the field of administrative sciences.

Fifteen Arab countries are participating in the executive council's meetings, including Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait.

The organization, which was established in 1969 and moved its offices in 1979 to Amman, is primarily concerned with administration and social development, with an emphasis on development administration. It is also undertaking an increasing number of programmes designed to cover the various aspects of planning, implementation and management.

Development in Arab countries has often encountered certain difficulties due to the absence of adequate management, which moved AOAS to give utmost concern to administrative development, Dr. Sayegh said.

Abdullah 'Alayyan, Director of Jordan's Institute of Public Administration and Jordan's representative at the Executive Council's meetings, told The Star that



Nasser Al-Sayegh

the council had adopted a plan of action for the year 1984. It will deal with four major areas. They include human resources and promotion of the skills of senior executives in the various national institutions of the Arab States; research and training and consultations in general.

But Dr. 'Alayyan stressed that the main activity of the AOAS during 1984 will concentrate on computerising the management of information systems. He expects the council to complete its meetings by Thursday, when it will refer its resolutions and recommendations to the AOAS general assembly, which is scheduled to meet in Rabat in November.

Reintroduction of oryx to Jordanian range succeeds

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein this week will formally announce the completion of the project to reintroduce the Arabian oryx to Jordan, by releasing 31 oryx into a fenced wildlife reserve of 22 square kilometres.

This project of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) started at

the Shaumari Wildlife Reserve in 1978. It began with four male oryx provided by Arabian Oryx World Herd Trustees through the World Wildlife Fund, RSCN President Anis Muasher told The Star.

With the addition of four females six months later, and another three presented by Qatari ruler Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Jordanian herd bred successfully, and was let into a larger enclosure so that it could live off the land. This experiment has succeeded, and the herd will now be released by the King into the large preserve.

International figures interested in wildlife will attend the ceremony which is expected to be held at Shaumari, near Azraq, on Tuesday, 18 October.

JORDAN BADE Farewell on Wednesday to the late Prince Nayef Bin Abdullah, who passed away Wednesday morning, at the age of 70. The Royal Court will observe a mourning period of seven days. The Prince's funeral procession was led by His Majesty and included His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prince Abdullah Bin Al-Hussein, Prince Ali Bin Nayef and members of the Royal family.



Amman becomes WHO regional meeting centre

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — A meeting of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, due to be held in Amman next week, is the latest in a series of WHO assemblies in the Jordanian capital. This phenomenon is expressive of a growth of interest in Amman as a regional meeting centre for all kinds of international organizations, observers say.

The WHO Regional Committee's 13th session will be held from 17-20 October at the Royal Cultural Centre, under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. It will be attended by WHO Director-General Halfdan Mahler and Regional Director Hassan Al-Jaziri. Participants will come from 14 Arab states including Jordan, as well as Djibouti, Cyprus, Afghanistan and Pakistan. Several of the countries' delegations will be headed by their ministers of health.

WHO conferences that have taken place here recently include two on mental health and basic first-aid drugs during September.

From 13-18 November the national medical laboratory managers of several countries will meet in Amman under the WHO aegis and in December, environmental health managers. In February 1984 another conference will be held here, on continuing health education for health workers.

Tareq Na'im, Public Relations Manager at the Jordanian Health Ministry, told The Star that this Amman-oriented trend resulted from Jordan's central geographic location and advanced utilities available here. Economic, political stability and ease of transportation to Jordan are also factors, he said.

Among the agenda items for the upcoming committee meeting are the promotion of the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, and a report on the transfer of WHO's Eastern Mediterranean regional office. Other subjects include resolutions and decisions of the WHO general assembly and executive committee, strategies and plan of action in the Health for All by the Year 2000 programme, and the regional programme budget for 1984-1985.

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Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail
Director-General

Jordan Hotel celebrates 20 years of service

AMMAN (Star) — The Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel this week celebrated the 20th anniversary of its founding.

Hotel officials told The Star that the hotel started as the Hotel Jordan in the early 1960s with 100 rooms, which have since increased to 410 rooms and suites, which contain all facilities of convenience and all the modern hotel requirements. It, as a whole, enables a businessman to spend an enjoyable vacation as well as a fruitful business trip to Jordan, the officials said.

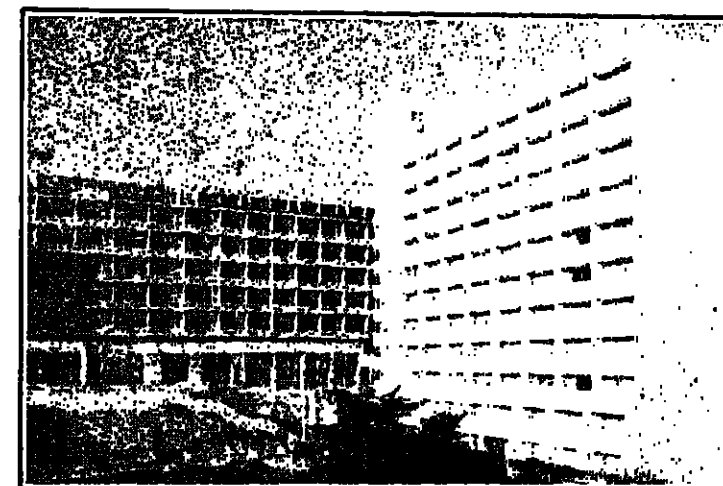
The first and last objective has been to present the wonderful face of Jordan through good hospitality and the best treatment with visitors and guests. These are, in fact, the characteristics which qualify the employees of the hotel.

The employees of Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental are working and are inspired by their strong belonging to their own home-land. They see in their work faithful efforts and taxes that should be paid by citizens towards their country and for the sake of its good reputation.

The employees of the hotel, whether Jordanians, Arabs or foreigners, are all hard-working because they care for developing their own establishment and finally serving this country. At the opening day of the hotel, the number of employees was 65 but today, 20 years later, it is 420. The hotel's management has been greatly interested in training the employees and continuously getting them acquainted with everything new in the world of hotel industry, which has greatly developed in the sectors of public services and the use of the up-to-date technological equipment.

The Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental occupies a unique position in Amman. It is not far from the centre of the capital. It takes three minutes to go downtown from the hotel by car; but the visitor does not need transportation or a long time to buy whatever he needs, because Jabal Amman has become a modern big market in which the visitor can find what he is looking for — the products of local traditional industries as well as modern European ones.

The hotel has been designed to reflect the culture, civilization,



Poolside view of the Inter-Continental, with new wing on the right

and customs of this country. As soon as you enter the main door you see a symbol of the generous Jordanian Bedouin life embodied in one of the Bedouins sitting beside a canon with the Arabian coffee pots... all of this shows the generosity and hospitality of the Jordanian Bedouins.

Ever since the 1940s, the Inter-Continental Hotels chain has introduced up-to-date methods of hotel management and service in the modern world. In 1946, President Franklin Roosevelt asked Pan American Airlines (Pan Am) to build modern hotels in Latin America for businessmen; and thus the first hotel was founded in Brazil in 1949.

About 10 years later, 14 hotels were built in Latin America and the Caribbean, after which they extended to most capital cities in east and west alike.

In the Middle East, the first Inter-Continental Hotel was built in Beirut in 1961. Hotels in the area number 11. The number

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PLO committee details efforts

Continued from page 1

work which has resulted in a proposal for a joint interim committee to be formed by the two sides. Extracts from the communiqué follow:

The conciliation committee announces its deep regret for the deterioration of conditions of the Palestinian scene, with resumption of the fighting and resort to the stupid information war as a means to solve disputes, rather than democratic dialogue.

The committee designated by Chairman Arafat and other PLO members, had set up a memorandum containing the bases for solving the conflict and the foundations of the relation between Syria and the PLO, and submitted it after conducting intensified contacts and discussions in Tunis. The committee followed it up in Damascus where other intensified talks were conducted.

On 2 September the committee returned to Tunis...the committee delivered its reply to the memorandum approved by Arafat. The committee returned again to Damascus

and met with the dissidents and replied to the note on 13th September.

The two replies given by Fateh's factions contained their appreciation of the basic difference regarding the proposed transitional committee. The conciliation committee proposed to form a joint committee from the two parties instead of a transitional committee.

All factions of the resistance welcomed the conciliation committee's memorandum and accepted its contents together with the Syrian party and considered it to be an appropriate basis for Palestinian-Syrian relations.

The conciliation committee...has upon the disputed parties to halt all public campaign against Syria: to halt the public among brothers; to halt all public campaigns on the Palestinian scene; to return fighters to the natural positions.

The committee also appealed to Syria to exert every effort to stop the fighting among Palestinians.

Weizman may replace Aridor

Continued from page 1

It was not clear how hard the crisis had hit Mr. Shamir politically. The daily 'M' reported that a random sampling of street opinion showed a sharp prestige drop in Tel Aviv's low-income Hatikva Quarter, which until now was strongly pro-Likud. But in Kiryat Shemona near the Lebanese border, another Likud bastion, residents said the anger was directed at Mr. Aridor, not at the government as a whole.

Another problem was Mr. Aridor's warning that unlike in the past, Israelis would not be compensated in full for the Histadrut, Israel's labour federation. The Likud would not agree to less than full compensation, and set a two-hour warning strike for Sunday.

The return of Ezer Weizman to the Likud would be a political boost for Mr. Shamir. The former air force pilot and army general masterminded the Likud's 1977 upset election triumph and served as defence minister for two years under Menachem Begin.

Mr. Weizman played a key role in bringing about the peace treaty with Egypt but resigned in 1979 in frustration at the slow pace of subsequent peace negotiations. He was expelled from the Likud in 1981 for voting against Mr. Begin in a no-confidence motion over the economy.

He has since stayed out of politics, prospering as an automobile importer. He remains popular, having assumed the image in some Israeli eyes of a serene waiting in the wings.

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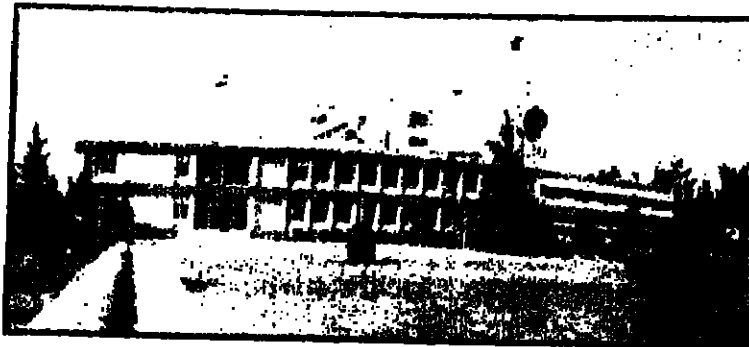
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Read this month's issue next week



The Jordan Television station in Umm Al-Helran

JTV director describes plans Nonstop TV news service is coming in '84 — Kamal

By Khader Mansour
and Hamdan Al-Haj
Star Staff Writers

AMMAN — A 24-hour news and information channel beamed directly into subscribers' homes is among the new features of television service planned for 1984, says Mohammad Kamal, Director-General of Jordan Television (JTV).

The new service, which is known as Telotex, will be available to television owners for a JD 10 fee. In addition to running news bulletins it will offer local information such as airport arrivals and departures, pharmacists on night duty, emergency services and others.

In an interview with The Star, Mr. Kamal said JTV has other plans for future improvements of its service including assigning special correspondents to foreign capitals for better news coverage. The station also hopes to prolong its daily transmission period, and to improve the quality of films, serials and other programmes it presents.

Low budget

However, the prospect of advances "largely and to a very great extent depends on sufficient funds and skilled personnel," he said. The television station's budget of JD 3.8 million is less than those of Egypt, Iraq, Syria and Israel — but still, he said, "we have been, to our belief, satisfying the varied tastes and demands of our citizens and guests, as far as possible." In many areas JTV is more advanced than the other, better-funded Arab television services.

One service JTV participates in — along with only four other countries — is the BBC TV news service. This is a system whereby JTV can request news materials from the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and have it delivered within 24 hours.

Asked whether JTV's current transmissions cover the whole country, he said, "Yes, almost all areas with the exception of a few pockets." These small areas at present cannot be reached due to certain geographic reasons.

He pointed out that Britain, which started TV transmission in 1936, "is still unable to ensure to total coverage to the whole country... 15 per cent of Britain does not receive TV transmission yet."

Asked about efforts to upgrade programming, specifically edu-



Mohammad Kamal

national shows, he said, "Programming for the TV station is a complicated process, to satisfy the various tastes of citizens. Efforts have been made to enrich the educational and cultural programmes." Two long-term agreements, with the "Open University" in England and with other educational institutions, have been concluded. These will help JTV in finding the appropriate cultural/educational material.

"JTV is aware of the technology that leads to development and will be quite up-to-date in those spheres," Mr. Kamal said.

As an example of JTV's impact he said that the station's nightly Hebrew news programme, as well as its transmissions in other languages, are extensively reprinted in Israeli newspapers, "which means that our programmes are received in the occupied territories with much interest and concern."

"JTV has two major difficulties — namely, the emigration of qualified and skilled staff to the neighbouring Arab countries — and to jobs in the private sector in Jordan — and, secondly, the limited financial resources at our disposal."

They are working to overcome the first difficulty by means of extensive staff training programmes. As for the second, Mr. Kamal said there was good reason for hope that better funding would be forthcoming in the near future.

Chess championship starts this week

— see page 24

New concepts reach Jordanian public through housing finance

By Kathy Kakish
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — A local finance firm will continue one of Jordan's most innovative publicity schemes later this month, when "Uncle Refco" returns to the country.

Uncle Refco, a walking, talking robot, can answer any question in Arabic, English, Spanish or French. He came to Jordan once previously, to talk to schoolchildren about road safety, health care and other subjects. During his next visit, which starts on 25 October, he will be promoting saving stamps for children.

The saving stamps scheme is being run by the robot's sponsor, the Real Estate Finance Corporation (Refco). It is one of several ideas the company has introduced, to accustom the Jordanian public to new financial concepts. In a programme launched earlier, Refco tried to encourage more young people to open savings accounts. Company officials told The Star that while there were already 30,000 account holders in the country, the youth still had not been reached.

Through Refco's plans, an 18-year-old man may save JD 10 per month and by the time he reaches the age of 27, he would have enough money, including interest to make the down payment on one of Refco's small flats to start a family in. This is something he could not do if he planned on buying a piece of land and constructing a home of his own.

Refco Director General Ahmad Mango told The Star that the firm had been working on new housing schemes since the current management took over in 1979. It entered this area of business because during the last two decades, with the soaring prices of land, it had become quite impossible for the majority of middle-income people to purchase land and build their own houses.

Refco began to buy lots in the middle-class eastern areas of Amman. Contractors were hired and supervised in building three main types of household detached villas and separate villas. Mr. Mango said such projects are not just a real estate service. Sales are made within the framework of a mortgage service. Buyers must submit a down payment of up to 25 per cent of the total price. As soon as the buyer moves in, the remainder is paid off in a mortgage



Uncle Refco outdoes his human counterparts

of up to 15 years. Monthly payments are determined at no more than one-third of the total household income.

Refco holds on to 25 per cent of the contractor's fees for one year as a guarantee. Should a house be found to have any construction faults, the contractor does the repair work free of charge.

At first, people were obliged to get life insurance from other companies to purchase a Refco home. "But they were reluctant to do that because a substantial portion of the Jordanian society is not aware of what life insurance is all about and what it can do for them," said Mr. Mango. "They think that insurance companies are sophisticated places that try to trick them."

Then, Refco obtained a charter for an insurance company just last year and launched the Refco Life Insurance Company, which is to be the first insurance company that is purely Jordanian. Customers are automatically covered by life insurance when they buy their homes, and insurance payments are included with the monthly mortgage.

CORRECTION

Mr. Khalaf Haddadin of the Haddadin Engineering Company for Contracting has told The Star that the figures given in an article on page 9 of last week's Supplement "Partners in Progress" are incorrect. The fees for the Agaba girls' school and the Madaba secondary school projects were JD 838,000 and JD 313,000 respectively, not JD 83,000 and 31,300 as given. Haddadin also completed the Karak community college project on its own, not with West Germany's Faber & Schaepp as given. The Star regrets any confusion caused by the errors.

Free zone factories start producing

By Kathy Kakish
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Two of 15 factories that have been rented for industrial projects at the Zaqra Free Zone have begun producing, says Ali Dajani, Director of the Amman Chamber of Industry.

One of the factories is producing special chemicals to strengthen building materials. The factory, which was established in co-operation with Forre Co. of the United Kingdom, has already exported around JD 20,000 worth of chemicals to Iraq.

It is expected that the second firm, which manufactures fire extinguishers, will sell its products on the Jordanian local market. Under the new customs law,

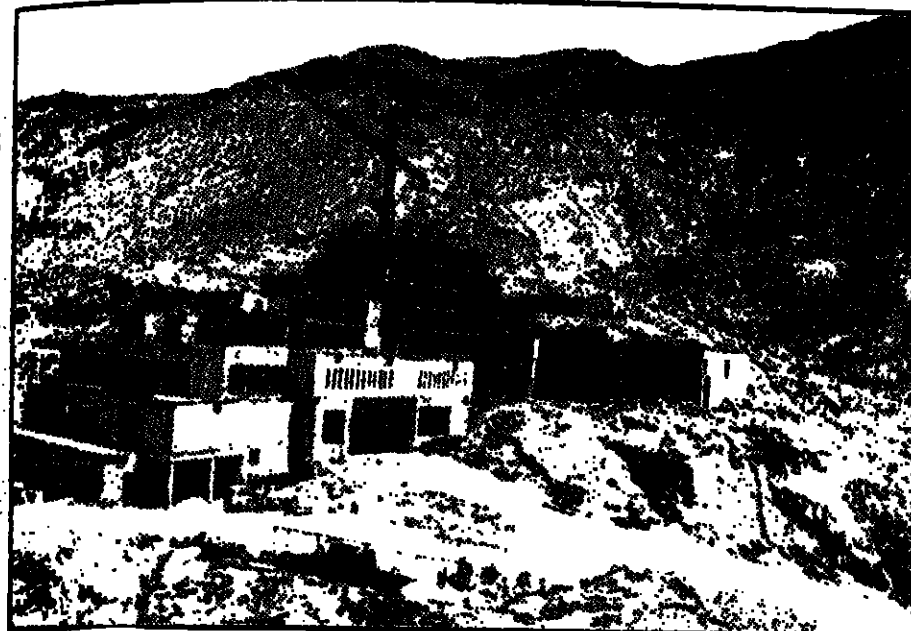
which was put into effect on 3 October, a certain percentage of materials manufactured at the Free Zone may be permitted to enter the local market. The Industry and Trade Ministry at the recommendation of the Free Zone board, may give such permission if the product does not compete with similar goods manufactured locally.

Goods delivered from the free zone are treated as foreign goods, whether or not they are made from local materials. Although they are subject to custom charges if sold in Jordan, the goods manufactured at the Free Zone will not be expensive because the raw material was bought duty free in the first place. According to Mr. Dajani, prices might be reduced by some 30 percent.

The Zaqra Free Zone and one in Aqaba were established for the purpose of developing internal and transit trade as well as providing facilities for establishing industries and attracting investment. This is carried out through several exemptions and facilities for industrial and commercial enterprises established in the Free Zone such as exemption of profits from income tax and social services tax for a period of 12 years as from the year of beginning of production, and exemption of salaries obtained by non-Jordanian employees from income tax and social services tax.

Buildings and construction in the Free Zone are also exempt from licence fees and property

Continued on page 13 October 1983



Hotel at the Zaqra Ma'in spa: Behind schedule

Spa project is delayed

By Hamdan Al-Haj
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — The completion of the Ma'in Spa project will be delayed for three months, project director Sharaf Najada disclosed to The Star this week. Mr. Najada did not give reasons for the delay in the project which will now be completed in October 1984.

Mr. Najada said that when it is completed the project will cater to the needs of all classes in Jordan. A camping ground with full bathing and sanitary facilities has been established for lower income groups and a hotel complex has been built for middle and upper income groups.

The hotel has 80 bedrooms, 12 treatment rooms, two recreational baths and two tepidaria. In addition, there are two public restaurants, a roof-top restaurant

and a public swimming pool with a capacity of 600 swimmers.

The Ministry of Communications has already promised to provide all necessary telephone and telex services and a technical director from Jordan Television has visited the site to study the possibilities for receiving television transmissions. Mr. Najada said channel six can be received without the use of an aerial but if aerials are used all transmissions should be clear.

He added that for electricity the project has two alternatives, either to install an independent generator or to ask the electricity company to supply it with power.

Mr. Najada said that future development of the project depended on the number of visitors. If their number exceeded the capacity of the present project, urgent extensions could take place.

November deadline for banks

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Commercial banks have until 5 November to set their accounts in order before a new Central Bank reserve requirement regulation comes into effect, The Star has learned.

The change in the regulations will make it more difficult for banks to gain access to funds that they are required to hold on deposit with the Central Bank. As a result, a substantial drop in interbank financial deals is expected.

Current reserve requirements call on commercial banks to keep an amount equal to 7 per cent of their time deposits, and 10 per cent of demand deposits, as a non-interest earning reserve at the Central Bank. Under the new rules, the reserve requirement will be 5 per cent of all deposits, held at the Central Bank on notice — meaning that it cannot be withdrawn without prior

approval. In addition, 2 per cent of time deposits and 5 per cent of demand and interbank deposits will be kept in reserve as a current account.

A Central Bank spokesman told The Star that the main purpose behind the rule change was to keep the reserve deposits out of the reach of the banks. The current account is theoretically accessible, but if any funds remain withdrawn from the account for more than one day the bank concerned will have to pay a penalty amounting to 1/3,650 of the overdraft.

A private merchant banker told The Star that the new regulation would eliminate a one-day "gap" that used to exist between a bank's reserve overdraft and action by the Central Bank. Some banks have been used to taking undue advantage of this gap by withdrawing from their reserve and earning profits in interbank dealings before having to make up the overdraft.

IMF plans to reduce borrowers' access Ceiling to drop to 102 per cent

WASHINGTON (OPECNA) — The interim committee of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has decided to reduce member countries' access to the fund's resources.

The 33-nation committee, preparing for the joint annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank, accepted a proposal to limit access to the IMF money pool to 102 per cent of each country's quota, or deposits, in the fund.

Countries with severe balance-of-payments problems will be able to borrow up to 125 per cent of

the quota or more if thought necessary by the IMF executive board.

Originally, an IMF member was allowed to borrow hard currencies — dollars or yen for example — equal to 100 per cent of its quota. But as the debts of poorer countries mounted, borrowing access was raised to 125 per cent, and finally in 1980, to 150 per cent a year for three years.

US Treasury Secretary Donald Regan had precipitated a deadlock by refusing to budge from his proposal to limit borrowing next year to 102 per cent for any country.

To win agreement on this point, the Americans dropped their previous insistence on gradually reducing fund access, beginning in 1985, to an eventual 55 per cent in 1987.

Principal objections to the 102 per cent compromise agreement were said to have been raised by Algeria, China, India and Zimbabwe.

IMF officials said it was important to have reached a compromise as a continued deadlock would have shaken confidence in the IMF's ability to manage the international debt crisis and exacerbated the trend of commercial banks reducing lending to Third World countries.

Belgian Finance Minister Willy de Clercq, chairman of the interim committee, told a news conference that the compromise reached was a "very positive one." He claimed that in dollar terms, all member countries would potentially have greater access to fund resources next year than at present, due to expected larger quotas.

Jacques de Larosiere, IMF Managing Director, described the decision as "meaningful and highly important."

He called for the stimulation of new export markets and an end to trade protectionism, both of which he said would improve debtor countries' economies, al-

Arab firm builds big desert poultry farm

ACOLID, West German company join forces

By Lella G. Deeb
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Out in the reaches of the eastern Jordanian desert near Azraq oasis, an ultra-modern, computerized city is being built. The city will be ready after one year for its first inhabitants — a batch of day-old chicks.

The aim of this vast project is to make Jordan self-sufficient in breeding poultry for egg production as well as broilers. Its builders envisage exporting the farm's production to other Arab states once self-sufficiency is achieved.

This is one of the projects set up by ACOLID, the Arab Company for Livestock Development, one of the companies of the Arab Economic Council. Twelve Arab countries are shareholders in the Damascus/Riyadh-based firm, whose Director General is Dr. Abdullah Al-Thannayan. Jordan's representative and project manager is Mr. Adib Duweili, from the Jordanian Ministry of Agriculture.

50 years experience

Lohmann Export, a private West German company, won an international tender in April of 1982 to build the project on a turnkey basis. Lohmann has more than 50 years' experience in livestock development, and has been working in the Arab world for the last 20 years. Its various subsidiaries produce all that it requires in its projects, and it has even developed its own poultry strains, says project supervisor Otto Richter. It has its own pharmaceutical company and laboratories, which has also allowed it to develop and produce medication, sera, vaccines and feed formulae for its poultry and animal stocks.

Mr. Richter, who has been in Jordan for over a year, told The Star that the work on the 16-dunum site, donated by the Jordanian government, started in August of 1982. It is expected to be completed and operational by August 1984. Just 10 kilometres from Azraq, the area had a well already dug, continued Mr. Richter. Another one was dug, but was found insufficient, and more are now in the process of being located.

Lohmann Export, which is the general contractor, has based its design of the project on their know-how and the management of the project will be designed along these lines also. So the contract will include the training of local staff of about 120, who will take over the project completely. But Lohmann will remain for a one-year maintenance and testing period, while supervising the whole plant. At the moment there are five German experts, but the work is being done by a local contractor, Wafa Engineering Company for civil works, while the erection of the steel and prefabricated structures will be subcontracted to Polimec, a locally-known Polish company.

Mr. Richter, who is an engineer and an architect, is involved in running the project here, but the designs, materials and equipment are imported from Lohmann. The work includes all the infrastructure, such as roads, water, and power. This will come from generators, with standby

generators in case of failure. Mr. Richter explained that the hatcheries must have constant power, otherwise the whole project would fail. The water must be sufficient, not only for the poultry project itself, but also to support about 250-300 staff who will be living on the premises.

The project is divided into several areas, completely separate, for hygiene as well as for functions. One-day old chicks will be imported, probably from Lohmann breeds, for grandparent stock. Four thousand chicks will be housed in four houses in a total area of 500 x 1,000 metres. The grandparent stock will produce the eggs to go into huge first hatchery, where the mother stock is hatched.

The day-old chicks will then be moved into the two rearing areas, each 300 x 400 metres, then into the four areas for the layers when they mature. To enter any of the areas, one has to step into a disinfectant pool.

The eggs from the layer mothers go into the second hatchery, from which the one-day old broiler chicks are exported, either to farms in Jordan or outside the country.

Automated feedmill

The project has its own fully-automated, computerized feedmill, with a production capacity of five tonnes per hour, to produce between 100 to 120 tonnes a day, which will be what the project will require. The feed formulae are Lohmann's own, adjusted to suit the various ages and types.

It is the first time that Lohmann, which produces poultry from egg to frozen broiler, has ever built a grandparent farm for a client, said Mr. Richter. "In a sense, it is blowing our own market, since the client will start selling the mother stocks," he said.

Nevertheless he is very proud of the project, one of the most modern of its kind. It will be almost a complete city, he says, with farm houses, control offices, pump-houses, underground water reservoirs and a sewerage system. It will also contain staff housing, a canteen, and most important of all, a modern laboratory to check and keep control of the health of the stock. Veterinarians will work there, along with lab technicians. There will be engineers and mechanical technicians to maintain and control the automated and computerized equipment and programmes, to prevent any failure which may cause disasters. The houses are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected when "the breed is finished." For mother stock, this will be when they are 63 weeks old. They start laying from the 26th week.

Mr. Richter's "small city" will produce 496,000 female chicks for mother stock, of which 38,000 will be sold, while the other will be reared as layers for hatching broiler chicks. The project will produce 17.6 million hatching eggs for broiler chick production, of which 10 million will be sold, while the rest are hatched in the project. Six million chicks will be supplied to ACOLID projects elsewhere, some of which will be sold to other production farms.

owing them to repay their loans. In its final communique, the interim committee "strongly endorsed" Mr. De Larosiere's efforts to arrange additional loans from "official sources" to help cope with the IMF's current cash shortage.

The committee referred the question of a new SDR allocation for study by the IMF managing director and asked him to pursue the possibility of an allocation "as a matter of priority."

The United States has refused to contribute more than \$750 million to IDA-7, the seventh replenishment of funds for the International Development Association, the World Bank's soft-loan affiliate.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET REPORT

All ahead slow

By Mamdouh El-Ghaly

MOVEMENT in the market has been quiet and lackadaisical this week. Most prices continued to decrease, which means that the rise recorded during the first two weeks of September has faded. Price declines have dominated the market recently.

A total of 580,000 shares were handled during the week at a market value of JD 850,000 divided among 1,450 contracts — a decrease of 36.9 per cent compared to last week. The daily handling average came to about JD 370,000 but deviation around this average reached an unstable 54.2 per cent, 10.8 per cent of total.

Banks

The banks sector had 74.5 per cent of total handling, an increase of 11.2 points compared to last week. Within this sector five out of 15 banks had 80.5 per cent of sector or 60 per cent of market total. The Bank of Jordan had 46 per cent of sector — 34.2 per cent of total — Jordan Gulf Bank had 10/7.4 per cent, Petra Bank 9.9/7.4 per cent, Islamic Investment House 7.5/5.6 per cent and Jordan National Bank 7.1/5.3 per cent.

Industry

Industrial shares accounted for 18.1 per cent of total handling, a decrease of 12.8 points compared to last week. Five out of 33 companies had 59.4 per cent of the sector or 10.8 per cent of the market total. Jordan Petroleum Refinery had 20.7 per cent of sector equivalent to 3.7 per cent of total; Intermediate Petrochemicals 13.4/2.4 per cent; National Industries had 9.1/1.7 per cent; Jordan Cement Factories 8.7/1.6 per cent, and Jordan Worsted Mills 7.5/1.4 per cent.

Services

The services sector had 5.7 per cent of total handling, up 1.9 points on last week. Two out of eight companies had 53.1 per cent of the sector or 3.1 per cent of the total. National General Investments had 34.9/2.0 per cent and Dar Al-Sha'b 18.2/1.1 per cent.

Insurance

The insurance sector had a small percentage of total handling, reaching only 1.7 per cent; a decrease of 0.3 points. Within this sector two out of eight companies had 47.8 per cent of the handling, or 0.8 per cent of the market total. General Insurance had 30 per cent of the sector — 0.5 per cent of total — and International Insurance had 17.8/0.3 per cent.

Shares of 63 companies were handled during the week, with price declines outnumbering advances, 40-14. Among gainers: Petra Bank closed at JD 9.580 up from JD 8.550; Dar Al-Sha'b at JD 1.350 up from JD 1.300; Jordan Phosphate Mines at JD 2.180 up from JD 1.800.

Price declines included: Arab Paper Manufacturing and Trading at JD 0.700 down from JD 0.760; National Shipping Lines at JD 1.700 down from JD 1.830; Arabian Seas Insurance at JD 1.970 down from JD 4.250; Philadelphia Insurance at JD 1.410 down from JD 1.500, and Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries at JD 0.670 down from JD 0.700.

Nine companies had no change in their share prices. The index calculated by The Star at closing time came to 349.250, a decrease of 5.4 points or 1.5 per cent.

In the over-the-counter market 550,000 shares were handled, at a market value of JD 435,000.

The weekly record

- A. Companies showing an increase in stock prices
B. Companies with a price decrease
C. The mean record figure

Morocco's economic mess calls for a lot of courage

Swift rescue operation needed to bring discipline in state of crisis

By Robert Poullot
Star Economy Analyst

THE MOROCCAN economy is in a mess. Prospects of a recovery have never been so bleak.

Despite the International Monetary Fund's third rescue in as many years, announced two weeks ago, it will take a lot of courage, self discipline and resourcefulness on the part of King Hassan II to bring back the country's economy to where it stood in 1979.

It was late that year when Mauritania withdrew from the one-third of the Western Sahara desert which it had held since 1976, signed a peace treaty with the Frente Popular Para la Liberacion de Sakiet El-Hamra y Rio de Oro (the Polisario liberation movement), renewed its relations with Algeria and revoked its defence agreement with Morocco.

King Hassan, who already controlled two-thirds of the disputed territory, promptly occupied the Mauritanian sector and integrated the entire Western Sahara into the political life of Morocco. That triggered off the most frantic military escalation in the history of North Africa.

The economic situation in 1979 was flourishing. The volume of phosphate rock shipments, the country's number-one export, had never been so high since 1974. Overall exports were soaring at a rate of 30 per cent. Total foreign exchange reserves stood at a record \$557 million. Together with 700,000 ounces of gold worth \$214 million, the country's money supply, that is cash in circulation plus liquid demand deposits held by banks, had a healthy coverage of 13 per cent. Those reserves also accounted for two months' worth of imports.

On the other hand, Morocco had already accumulated a total public debt of \$6.1 billion, over three times the country's export earnings. Such liability cost the country nearly two months and a half exports in interest payments alone.

From rise to fall

Yet, despite the debt burden, the Moroccan dirham was doing fairly well. It reached a peak exchange rate of 3.9 dirhams to the dollar. The money stock in the country (cash and demand deposits, or M1) was growing at a frantic pace of 20 per cent a year. Loans by financial institutions were jumping even faster at 25 per cent a year.

An illusion of strength and great wealth was sweeping across the nation. The general feeling was that Morocco could sustain a war in the Western Sahara and still maintain the development expenditures.

But by the end of 1979, the cost of the war was estimated at \$1 million per day. Ahmed Bujari, a member of the National Council of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, suggested in October 1981 that the war bill had risen to \$3.3 million a day. "The effort is enormous," said King Hassan. "The bill is heavy. Yet, Morocco is doing fine. The proof is that our development plans go on."

That was in 1979.

In June this year, Morocco's total reserves and gold holdings covered only five days worth of imports. Its money stock coverage had dropped by more than half. The national exports are now about the same as in 1979, while imports have surged by nearly 20 per cent. The country's outstanding debt has reached a record high of \$10.8 billion, more per capita than in Egypt, and costing about five months' worth of export earnings in interest alone.

As a result, the dirham has lost half of its value against the US dollar since 1979. For so many Arab

investors who had put their faith in Moroccan loss in foreign exchange is considerable. And has yet to come under the new IMF aid package. Some IMF sources, in fact, have suggested further devaluation was in the offing.

What went wrong

A lot went wrong over those critical five years. The war effort obviously did a lot in transferring resources out of the productive sector, and that causing inflation to rise. But the second major factor was certainly the gross mistake of maintaining the same ration of butter while the state to spend so heavily on arms.

Iraq did the same during 1980-81, to find out late that it had squandered all its reserves.

Another key contributor to the economy's fall was the impact of the second oil price shock 1979-80. Although exports of phosphate rose slightly in 1980, prices reached a peak later and then tumbled by 23 per cent until 1983. Unfavourable weather conditions since 1981 have also badly affected the citrus crops which count for nearly 28 per cent of Moroccan exports abroad.

Yet, the economy recovered last year when gross domestic product (GDP) grew by 3.6 per cent and the overall budget deficit was reduced to 14.5 per cent of the GDP in 1981 to 12.3 per cent. The inflation rate was also held at 10.6 per cent. But the fall in phosphate export receipts, higher costs on the international capital markets and continued high levels of government expenditure contributed to widen even further the deficit of balance of payments.

Morocco had nearly reached a state of crisis only a swift rescue operation could impose economic discipline on the country.

A bitter pill

The IMF package is worth \$315 million (\$200 million) between now and 15 March 1985. It is used to support a new government economic financial programme with the prime objective of constraining the growth of consumption, both in private and public sectors, and maintaining a low rate of investments.

Policies to achieve those aims include new measures to raise more revenues, a cut in government subsidies, the liberalization of prices and a more flexible exchange rate policy for the dirham. Credit will be both on the part of the state and the private sector will have to be seriously limited. That means for the next two years, Morocco will need to accept of the syndicated Euromarket.

Stiff measures by the government have already been applied. The annual expenditure budget adopted in July was slashed by 28 per cent. 60 per cent of the \$718 million cut comes from three key ministries: Equipment, Finance and Culture.

Only time will say whether the reform plan will work. It is the third time since 1980 that the country faces a crisis and each year, it has failed to implement the proper corrective measures.

The only difference this time is that Morocco seems to be sincere in its desire to end the war in the Western Sahara.

However, if the plan fails again, Morocco will face serious social and political consequences. It is a case to follow closely, especially for other indebted Arab countries such as Algeria, Egypt and Sudan.

Free zones offer customs, tax incentives

Continued from page 4

tax. Imports into and exports from the Free Zone to any country other than the Jordan market will not be charged import license or customs duty fees, and taxes.

The Free zone at Aqaba, which has an area of 2 million square metres, is equipped to receive goods for storage and subsequent release from the zone. 100 cargo ships that dock at Aqaba every month. Perishables can be stored at the cold stores that can accommodate around 6,000 tonnes of such goods.

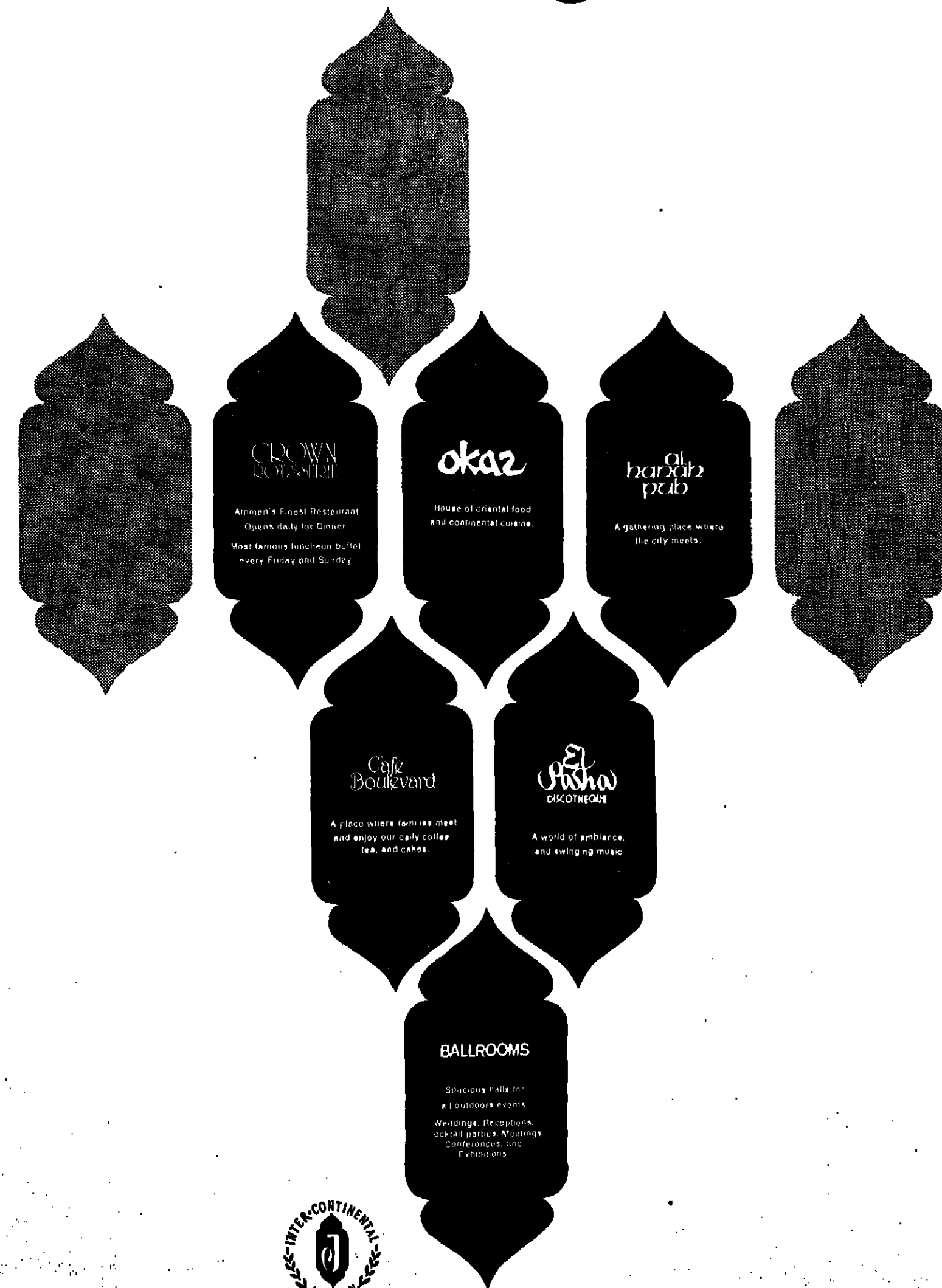
The Zarga Free Zone has a dual objective, dealing with both trade and industry. Located on an area of 5.25 million square metres, the Zarga Free Zone is divided into sectors for administrative buildings, store houses, exports and imports, transit trade, industrial areas, duty-free motor car halls and exhibition sites. It is expected that 12,000 employees will be hired. The first exhibition to be held at the Zone will be one of American, British, French and German

weaponry in November 1983 will last for five days.

The total capital investment in the 15 industrial enterprises estimated at JD 7.85 million. The 13 remaining factories which are expected to be completed next year cover a wide range of projects such as industrial silver from rubbish, the manufacture of household electric appliances, solar heaters, defence logistics equipment, furniture, electronic switchboards, automatic series and ready-made clothes, among other things.



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MIDDLE EAST IN BRIEF

Haddad leaves hospital

HEIRUT — Israeli-backed militia leader Sand Haddad returned to Southern Lebanon Tuesday after treatment at Rambam hospital in Haifa. The former Lebanese army officer said in a broadcast over his Voice of Hope television station that he had suffered from fatigue and that his doctors have advised him to rest. Haddad said his resting period might be long or short, "but I will stay close to you," he added. Haddad, 46, heads the Israeli-armed and-trained militia that the Jewish state hopes will help ensure the stability of Southern Lebanon and enable the eventual withdrawal of its troops from Lebanese soil.

Ceausescu to visit Egypt

CAIRO — Roman President Nicolae Ceausescu is expected to hold four days of talks with President Hosni Mubarak starting 19 October, Egyptian newspapers reported. The newspapers said the talks would centre on efforts to push the peace process in the Middle East and military and economic bilateral relations. Last June, Egypt and Romania concluded an agreement under which Egypt would get an unspecified number of Romanian tanks, but no further details were disclosed.

Shamir forms government

JERUSALEM — Premier-designate Yitzhak Shamir presented his new government to parliament offering a virtual copy of Menachem Begin's outgoing coalition. Political analysts predicted a 61-55 endorsement in voting, giving Shamir a one-seat majority in the 120-member Knesset, or Parliament. Shamir's speech contained no indications of new policy directions in Lebanon or the occupied West Bank. It dwelled heavily on the economy, which was being rocked by a threatened collapse of bank stocks affecting thousands of citizens.

Turkey bans associations

Ankara — A new law has gone into force in Turkey that forbids teachers, high school students, civil servants and soldiers from forming associations. It also bans associations advocating Marxism, differences in race, culture, and religion. The new law forbids professional and other associations from affiliation with political parties. The law also bans university students from giving paramilitary training to their members.

Conference on Middle East

TEL AVIV — The mayor of Bethlehem Mr. Elias Frei will soon leave for the United States to attend an international conference on the Middle East, the daily Haaretz newspaper reported. The conference which will convene in Atlanta will last four days and is being organized jointly by former Presidents Carter and Ford. No official from Israel has been invited. Invitations have however been extended to the other parties in the Middle East conflict including the PLO.

Israel protests declarations

JERUSALEM — Israel Tuesday protested an Australian decision to allow the Arab League to establish offices in its country and to authorize its ambassadors to meet with officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization. A foreign ministry statement said Israel was saddened to hear that Australia was forming official contacts with the PLO, whose political and military standing was at a low ebb. It charged that Arab League offices usually are nothing but a cover for activities to incite against Israel and the Jewish people and often are a front for the preparation of terrorist operations.

UNRWA centre looted

BEIRUT — The Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency Mr. Olef Rydbeck charged Tuesday that militiamen looted an agency training school and made off with the goods in a truck from the Progressive Socialist Party. In a statement released in Beirut, he said 300 mattresses and pillows, 600 blankets, food, cooking facilities and a movable kitchen had been taken from the centre in a truck with PSP markings. The UNRWA training centre is in Sibhac, 28 kilometres south of Beirut.

Lebanon: Neighbours become killers

By Colin Smith

BEIRUT (ONS) — Joseph Loutfi, a policeman of the Maronite Christian faith, stood in the ashes of his sitting-room glistening slightly. It was not a pleasant sight.

Outside, his grandfather's wristwatch, with blood congealed in the links of its metal strap, hung from a nail in the wall near the place where they found him. The hands had stopped at 2.35. Joseph walked over to a corner and picked up a metal box with some wires hanging out. "Video player," he said. He continued his patrol, exploring little piles of debris with his feet until the toe caps of his well-polished shoes were quite grey.

A miniature anvil, well tempered by the flames, was produced. "Singer," he explained and placed the sewing machine carefully on the floor. Everywhere he went in the stone-bull house in the village of Bourjein told the same story. There had been no looting. What had not been burned had been smashed. Television sets, record players, even refrigerators were all dismembered.

The perpetrators had obviously been above greed. They had been committed only to a blind, consuming vandalism, a force that could not be expended until everything and everybody in its path had been destroyed.

Another manic gaggle announced the discovery of two intact diplomas recently awarded to one of the policeman's daughters by the Ecole Moderne Anouth. "A Muslim school," he said. "You see, we educated our children together."

Bourjein was a mixed Sunni Muslim and Christian village in the Shouf mountains a little over 20 miles from the centre of Beirut, where many of its male inhabitants, including Joseph Loutfi, work. It had a population of about 4,000, of whom just over half were Muslims.

As in many similar communities in the Shouf, co-existence, albeit precarious and grudging at times, was the rule. The young men allowed the wise counsel of their elders to prevail and remained aloof from the carnage which has beset the rest of Lebanon over the past eight years.

Then the Phalangists followed the Israeli army into the area, maintaining they had come to protect the Christians. Some of the young men, one of them the policeman's younger brother, found their talk of Christian hegemony irresistible and joined up.

When the Israelis withdrew Bourjein became one of the most fought over villages in the country. First the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party captured it and, according to the Phalangists, massacred 15 Christian villagers, including Joseph's grandfather and an aunt.

The old man is alleged to have been murdered with an axe blow to the head and the Phalangists pointed out the dark brown stain from the wound, near the spot where his wristwatch was hanging, as if it was the start of some ghastly shrine.

A few days later the Christian militia, who in this region were made up of some of their best Israeli-trained and equipped units, counterattacked. After 13 hours of street fighting they recaptured the place.

It was obviously a hard fight. Many of Bourjein's more contemporary, ferro-concrete, buildings have been reduced to rubble.



Two regular soldiers of the Lebanese army patrol Christian militia areas in East Beirut



The commander of the newly formed 'Shi'ite Army' inspects a group of recruits in Southern Lebanon

Its alley-ways are carpeted with spent cartridges, and the carcasses of dogs and cats still perfume the ruins.

Joseph Loutfi's younger brother took part in the battle for Bourjein and wears an ivory-handled dagger in his belt. He boasts he took it off a Druze he killed. Although he did not seem to regard his own membership of the Phalangists as at all provocative, he recounted in horrified tones how he had seen some of their Sunni neighbours fighting alongside the Druze. "They were the same people," added Joseph, "whom we had been playing cards with a few days before. We can never live with these people again. I don't care what the politicians say, it was not their grandfather who was killed."

At the American University in Beirut a Lebanese professor in sociology took just as gloomy a view about the prospects of genuine reconciliation as Joseph Loutfi. He believes there can be no peace in Lebanon unless there is peace in the mountains, and he finds that very difficult to imagine.

"This has been a question of said," "I can't see how Christians and Druze can live together again." The wounds on both sides are, of course, too fresh for the kind of forgiveness the proposed National Conference of Reconciliation is intended to engender, should it ever agree on a venue.

Yet there are indications of a desire for peace which might even smother the yearning for revenge. To most people's surprise, the security committee, which is composed of the Lebanese army, the Phalangists, the Druze and their Shia Muslim allies, agreed to the reopening of the international airport after only two meetings.

13 October 1983

JACOB 1983/10/13

Nimeiry detains critics, frees criminals

By Richard Hall

LONDON — Repercussions from the sudden imposition of strict Islamic law in Sudan are being felt throughout the Nile valley, from Cairo to the Ugandan border.

President Nimeiry has released 13,000 common criminals, and ordered \$5 million worth of liquor to be poured into the Nile at Khartoum. He also said adultery will be punished by stoning, and theft by the cutting-off of hands.

This 'new page of Islamic justice' for Africa's biggest country will bolster fundamentalist groups in neighbouring Egypt. Some of these underground groups, more extreme than the hardline Muslim Brothers, look approvingly towards Iran and Ayatollah Khomeini.

Two thousand miles to the south, in Sudan's predominantly Christian regions where rebellion is festering, there is anger at this tightening of Islamic ties. Symbolically the airport at Juba, the southern capital, is still selling duty-free drink; Khartoum airport has gone 'dry,' on Nimeiry's instructions.

While Sudan's criminals enjoy freedom (each with a \$50 'golden handshake'), Nimeiry has been arresting his critics and rivals. Among these is Sadiq el-Mahdi, 48, a former prime minister and leader of the widespread Ansar religious-political body. He was arrested at his home in Omdurman,

across the Nile from Khartoum, after Ansar youths staged a military-style march. Others taken to the State Security headquarters included ex-ministers and judges. Nimeiry has ordered that opponents arrested in the provinces be flown to Khartoum.

Sadiq, who became prime minister at the age of 30 in 1966, was jailed for two years after Nimeiry's military takeover, then went into exile. After an unsuccessful coup attempt, Sadiq was sentenced to death in absentia but returned to Sudan from his home in Britain to be publicly reconciled with Nimeiry. Later they disagreed over the Camp David agreement. Nimeiry had supported the Egyptians, in defiance of the rest of the Arab world. Nimeiry's motives for the gamble with Islamic law — a system shunned by Egypt — are twofold. Abroad he wants to gratify Saudi Arabia and the Gulf Emirates, from which he desperately needs money and free oil. (Khartoum was totally without power throughout last month.)

At home he wants to appease the Muslim Brotherhood. Its secretary-general, Dr Hassan el-Turabi, is his legal adviser and Attorney-General, as well as being Sadiq's most formidable intellectual opponent and his brother-in-law.

Before the latest round-up, according to Amnesty International, there were 200 to 300 political detainees in Sudan. The arrest of Sadiq el-Mahdi and his associates at the



President Nimeiry

head of Ansar carries a threat of anarchy among Sudan's 20 million people. Although a devout Muslim, he has dismissed Nimeiry's imposition of religious law as irrelevant at a time when the country is bankrupt and divided.

Shortly before his arrest, Sadiq addressed 500,000 followers at Abaisland, his movement's spiritual focal point, 240 kilometres south of Khartoum. He had said: "If a man's family is starving and he steals to feed them, we cannot rule that his hand should be cut off." Sadiq is a great-grandson of the first Mahdi, whose followers conquered Sudan and killed General Gordon in 1885. Tall, courteous and eloquent, he studied at St John's College, Oxford, and in recent years has been a visiting Fellow at St. Antony's.

The latest arrests have not been mentioned by Khartoum radio. Nur has the jailing of 12 Army officers a fortnight ago on suspicion of planning a coup. At any clear sign of disintegration, the Egyptian army could be called in by Nimeiry. He has been assiduously strengthening his relations with President Hosni Mubarak.

The United States might also give help, if there seemed any risk that Colonel Qadhafi could seize an advantage from Sudanese civil conflict, perhaps in alliance with the Marxist-inclined Colonel Mengistu of Ethiopia.

Sadiq el-Mahdi has always resisted the idea of violent opposition to Nimeiry. In 1970 about 3,000 Ansar rebelled on Abaisland were killed by government troops. The Imam, Sadiq's uncle, was shot trying to escape.

Observer News Service

Kuwaiti Crown Prince warns Israel wants the return of intervention in the Gulf of Egyptian ambassador

By Philip Finnegan
Star Cairo Correspondent

KUWAIT (AP) — The Kuwaiti Crown Prince was quoted Monday as warning of major power intervention in the Gulf region if Iran made good its threats to block navigation in the Hormuz Strait, an oil tanker route vital to Western industries.

"Things do not encourage optimism," Sheikh Saad Abdullah told a meeting of Kuwaiti editors and publishers. "If Iran went ahead with its threat (to close the Hormuz, the major powers would intervene in the (Gulf) region under the pretext of protecting their own interests."

He noted that the Iraq-Iran war has entered its fourth year with no side being able to win on the military front, despite the widespread destruction and suffering to the peoples of both countries.

Sheikh Saad Abdullah praised Iraq for offering to end the war and take to the negotiating table without conditions, despite Iran for rejecting this and insisting on certain conditions.

He said that the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) mediation have produced no positive results. "We are still hopeful and will carry on (mediation efforts) to bring the war to an end," he emphasized.

"We are hinging high hopes on the current mediation by (UAE President) Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan to reconcile Syria and Iraq," he said.

Sheikh Saad said that contacts were under way for a preliminary accord between Iraq and Iran to abstain from raiding each others' naval installations. This, he said, would pave the road for a broader ceasefire and bring the war to an end.

Fresh mediation efforts were to be started later this month in Kuwait, where the eight-nation Regional Organization for the Protection of Marine Environment (ROPME) was to convene a ministerial conference on the Gulf oil slick menace.

Asked to comment on the situation in Lebanon, Sheikh Saad told the meeting that what is happening in Lebanon is far bigger than Lebanon itself. He blamed Ja-



Sheikh Saad Abdullah

rael for the plight of Lebanon, claiming the Jewish state was trying to fan out the flames of discord in that country.

He said that Israel was party to a plot designed to partition Lebanon. "I hope the Lebanese will be able to achieve national detente because it is the sole guarantee for their security," he concluded.

Meanwhile the president of Iran's Parliament has reiterated the threat to close the Gulf to all shipping if the Super Etendard bombers supplied by France to Iraq are used against it, the official Iranian News Agency reported Tuesday.

The supply of the French warplanes, equipped with deadly accurate exocet missiles to Iraq was an act of international blackmail," Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani was quoted as saying.

Iran fears that the Etendard bombers reportedly delivered to Iraq last week, will be used to prevent the export of Iranian oil, either through the destruction of its oil or by the sinking of oil tankers.

"If Iran is prevented from exporting its oil through the Gulf waterway, then no country in the world will be able to use this vital route," Rafsanjani said.

CAIRO — Israel has begun a tough propaganda campaign designed to get the Egyptian ambassador back to Tel Aviv. Israeli officials have recently been making a number of statements indicating that Israel has given back Sinai and received nothing in return. Not only is normalization frozen but the Egyptian ambassador, recalled "for consultations" a year ago following the massacres of Palestinians in Lebanon has never been returned to Israel.

Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens set the tone last week in a speech carefully timed during the opening ceremony of the Nevatim Airbase, one of several air bases built to compensate Israel for the loss of Sinai. Arens stressed a familiar Israeli theme. "Had we been told (during the negotiations) that this was how the Egyptian government planned to act in cases of differences of opinion between the two states, it is doubtful whether we would have gone that far in (making concessions for the peace agreements)." Arens added that: "There is no escaping the conclusion that Egypt is violating the agreement it signed — and violating it blatantly."

The Israelis have not contented themselves with mere propaganda statements but have also worked through Israel lobby in the American Congress to put greater pressure on Egypt. Representative Clarence Long, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee on Foreign Operations, tried to amend a bill offering a \$65 million increase in military aid to Egypt with a condition requiring Egypt to return its ambassador to Israel.

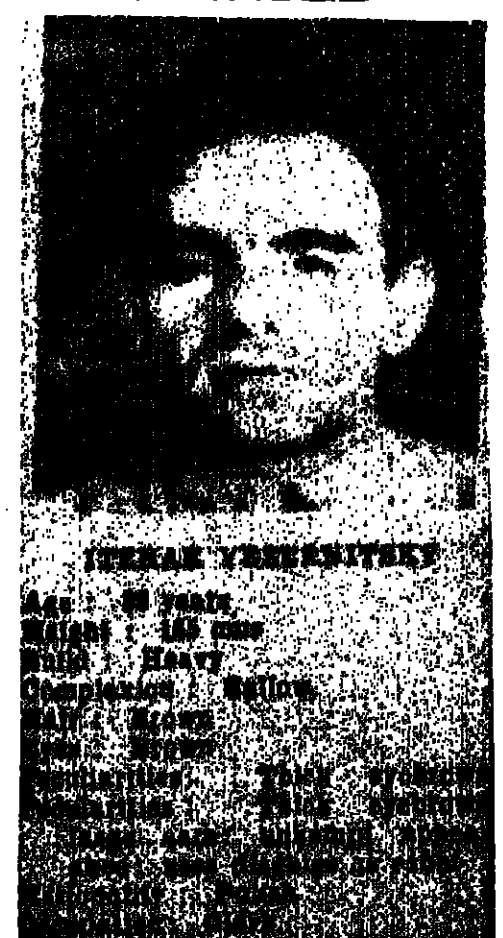
Long has on previous occasions distinguished himself by his charges before congress that Israel had given up a lot for the peace treaty but had gotten nothing but "a piece of paper." In this case, Long won only half a victory. The language in the bill was eventually softened instead of strongly urging the ambassador's return.

During his weeklong trip to Washington earlier this month, President Hosni Mubarak had to repeatedly explain Egypt's position on the return of the ambassador. The conditions he expressed indicate that despite the pressure Egypt's position is firmer than ever.

In the past, Mubarak has indicated that Israel must indicate a timetable for its

withdrawal from Lebanon. But now two additional conditions have been added. First, there must be progress in the Taba talks (a tract of less than half a mile square occupied by Israel but claimed by both countries) second, there must be an Israeli moratorium on the building of Jewish settlements on the West Bank and Gaza.

WANTED



The Associated Press distributed Tuesday a photograph of the New Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Shamir, which appeared on a 'wanted' add, issued by the British Mandate Authorities in Palestine during the 1940s.

Shamir used his Polish name, Yitzhak Yezerski, when he was commanding the terrorist Stern gang.

THE JERUSALEM STAR 9

middle east

British Television shows Arab films

By Len Rockingham
Star London Correspondent

LONDON — For Arab visitors to London, who often complain of misrepresentation and distortion in the British media, there is an invigorating change in a new series of television documentaries which began this week. Entitled "The Arabs — a living history", the series of ten hour-long programmes seeks to explore the diversity of the contemporary Arab world and interpret it through Arab eyes.

The series is being shown on Monday evening on channel four, the second commercial network, for whom incidentally it is the biggest documentary series they have made. The producer is David Collison, formerly with the BBC but almost all the other

production team and advisers are Arabs. The series is financed by Kuffic Films, the European subsidiary of a Kuwaiti business group who did not, according to the producers, interfere in any way with the contents.

The key man in the first programmes in the series is Dr. Basim Musallam, a Beirut-born teacher of Middle East history at the University of Pennsylvania. As well as being production adviser, Dr. Musallam was the guide to the first programmes, visiting Morocco to see how the Arabs of the distant west regard their Arab identity. His interviews with them were conducted in Arabic and shown with English subtitles. To Dr. Musallam's surprise, he found ordinary people in Morocco or Tunisia more involved emotionally in the suf-

ferings of the Lebanese or Palestinians than the official pronouncements of their governments would suggest.

The series is an ambitious one and was filmed in all Arab countries except Saudi Arabia, where the film crew failed to obtain entry visas. Later in the series, there is a long sequence of film about Bedouin life, which was filmed in Jordan.

The only major regret of the producers of the series is that it is unlikely to be screened in many Arab countries. The reason is that although the series is cultural in intention and largely cultural in content, it does not avoid making political comments. And these political statements may prevent it being shown publicly in Arab countries.

Egypt rejects call for resumption of talks

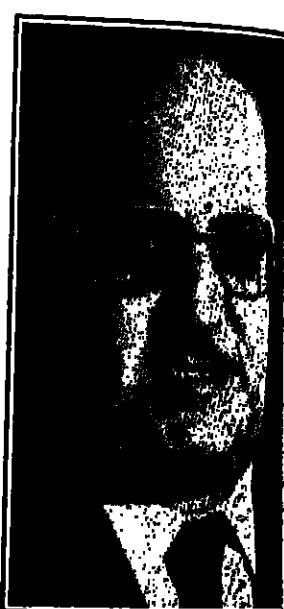
CAIRO (AP) — Egypt Tuesday rejected a call by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir for resumption of Palestinian autonomy talks in their old framework and demanded Israeli flexibility to encourage the Palestinians and Jordan to join in.

Commenting on Shamir's policy statement in parliament before being sworn on Monday, Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Aly also said it was regrettable that the new government should start its tenure with a renewed commitment to continued building of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Aly disputed Shamir's contention that Egypt was responsible for the breakdown of Israeli-

Egyptian-American negotiations on Palestinian autonomy early 1982. He said Israel was to blame.

The talks under the Camp David accords began in May 1979. Since their collapse, Egypt has said it would not agree to a resumption unless Israel and the Palestinians participated.



Kamal Hassan Aly

Egypt has said this can be done under the terms of President Reagan's peace initiative of September 1982, calling for Palestinian autonomy in association with Jordan.

This was a reference to Israel's demand for limited self-rule for the 1.3 million Palestinian inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza and Egypt's insistence that they enjoy executive, legislative and judicial powers.

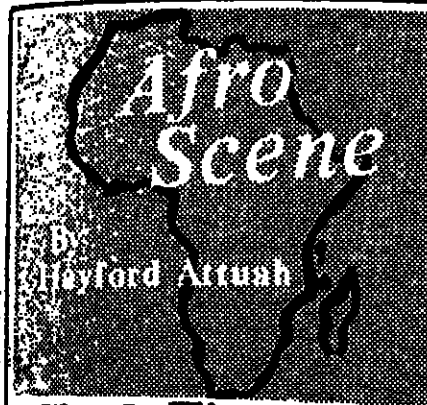
Aly said the continued suspension also was due to other Israeli practices such as bombing of Iraq's nuclear reactor, the annexation of East Jerusalem (Syria's Golan Heights, the invasion of Lebanon, aggressive measures in the West Bank and Gaza, the continued establishment of settlements there and the dismissal of (Palestinian) workers.

It is regrettable that the Israeli government should start off by renewing its commitment to settlement building in the occupied Arab lands," Aly said. "The settlements are illegal," he added. Egypt has said it repeatedly and the international community has condemned settlements. "We call on Israel to reconsider its position on this matter."

Mr. Aly also contested Shamir's suggestion that Egypt had not honoured its commitment under the 1979 peace treaty. "Egypt has lived up to the letter and the spirit of the peace treaty," Aly said. "It was Israel which failed to honour its commitments particularly in the 25 April, 1982, agreement on settlement of the border dispute."

The 1982 agreement, which coincided with the completion of Israeli troop withdrawal from the Sinai Peninsula, called for a joint Israeli-Palestinian committee to decide the status of the one-square-kilometre disputed border area of Taba and the Israeli port of Elat.

The negotiations failed, and an effort to arrange for a ceasefire has been stymied by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June last year and Egypt's recall of its ambassador to Israel the following September.



Chad: Time for peace talks

THE CIVIL war in Chad which erupted again like a volcano three months ago has apparently subsided. Even though there was no formal agreement to a ceasefire both warring factions seem to have reached some understanding to lay down arms.

One school of thought holds the view that the lull in the war was caused by the presence of the French legionnaires sent by President Mitterrand to check the advancing troops of Goukouni Oueddei allegedly backed by Libyans. But this no war, no peace situation which has been a feature of Chad's 19-year-old civil war should change.

It had been the expectation of many people interested in the Chadian problem that the Organization of African Unity and for that matter the United Nations would take advantage of the ceasefire to negotiate peace between the parties.

Unfortunately there has not been such a move by the African group or the world body. Things have been left as they are, and Chad remains divided — almost partitioned. What guarantee do we have that, should the French troops leave, the war will not start again? As it is, Goukouni and his Libyan allies halted their advance apparently to avoid direct confrontation with the French.

This is the time for the OAU Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam of Ethiopia to use his good offices to set up a high-powered mediation committee to negotiate peace in Chad. Mengistu should not wait for the war to start again before he appeals to the belligerents to stop fighting. The world has heard enough of those appeals, which always go unheeded until severe damage has been done.

What should be done now is to get the leaders of the two sides in the struggle to see the need for peace in their country. President Habre has said on many occasions that he will not negotiate with Goukouni and was quoted as saying he will instead meet Libya's Colonel Qadhafi.

It was encouraging to hear Habre change his stance at the recent Franco-African summit conference in Vitell, France, that he is now ready to meet with Goukouni, but only in his (Habre's) capacity as president.

Whatever the differences, Goukouni and his troops remain Chadian citizens who owe allegiance to the nation and will continue to stake that claim for years to come.

As the OAU seems to have relaxed its attitude towards a permanent solution to the problem, it falls on France as the colonial power to take the initiative. France has been called upon to send troops to Chad on two previous occasions. It is France, if anyone, who stands to lose in terms of maintenance of hundreds of troops in Chad. To avoid performing this policeman duty all the time, President Mitterrand should set in motion a process which will lead to peace in Chad once and for all.

Against this background, it is regrettable that the Vitell summit failed to make any proposals for peace in Chad, even though it was at the top of the agenda.

All is not lost yet. Though time is running out, and no one knows when the war will break out again, something can be done swiftly in the interim to avert further bloodshed in impoverished Chad.

Military governments in the Third World

By Peter Calvert

THE DECADE of the 1960s saw a spectacular rise in the frequency of military government. In the newly independent countries of Africa a wave of military coups overthrew the independence constitutions and established military rulers of varying ranks and degrees of stability.

In the Middle East, political tensions between states strengthened the armed forces as institutions within their respective states. In Latin America, beginning with Brazil in 1964, a new form of military government began to emerge; one which no longer, as in the past, sought merely to transfer power from one civilian government to another, but which was itself pledged to remain in power for a long period of years to further the economic modernisation of the state.

In Peru, as in Mali in 1968, left-wing military governments showed that they too could use this route to power. By 1970 military government had clearly come to stay in the Third World countries.

The early 1970s, moreover, in many ways proved a disappointment to those who had hoped that the situation might be reversed. In Africa, military takeovers occurred in Uganda in 1971 and in Ghana in 1972, while an attempt to overthrow President Stevens in Sierra Leone in 1971 was only narrowly averted. Rwanda (1973), Niger (1974), Upper Volta 1974 and Chad (1975) all incurred military intervention, while changes in other countries, such as Dahomey, now Benin (1972) and Malagasy (1975), merely replaced one kind of military government with another.

In Latin America, Bolivia (1971) and Ecuador (1972) succumbed to traditional military coups, while the new doctrine of military developmentalism spread slowly to Uruguay (1972-3), and, at the fall of Allende in the civil war of 1973, to Chile. By this time, the vast majority of Latin Americans lived under military governments, the interval in Argentina under the two Perons offering only a faint prospect of change, soon ended.

In other parts of the world, however, the picture already looked rather different. The change was most unambiguous in Europe. In Greece the regime of the colonels fell almost unexpectedly in 1973 amid widespread popular rejoicing. The onset of the Portuguese Revolution in 1974, while it left the army in control of the destinies of Portugal itself for a space, brought an end to eleven years of war in Africa and hence to the need to maintain enormous military forces.

The provisional governments, too, with their considerable conscript backing, remained committed to widening participation in government and to allowing the free expression of popular opinion. In Spain, despite a measure of turbulence, the death of Franco did not bring about the establishment of a new military dictatorship.

Though in Latin America the move back to civilian rule began later, as 1977 moved into 1978 what had begun as a rush became a virtual stampede. In some states, such as Argentina and Chile, the heads of state felt it sufficient to put on civilian clothes.

In Cuba, Major Castro became President Castro. In Uruguay military control was maintained behind the scenes, though the armed forces found it increasingly difficult to find civilian politicians who were willing to work with them. In the Andean states, civilian constitutions were drawn up, political parties reformed, elections held.

The process of 'civilianisation' spread northwards. In 1979 the revolution in Nicaragua destroyed the power of the once mighty National Guard, while in the Dominican Republic the armed forces failed to march when President Balaguer was defeated at the polls. The outlook for the 'civilianisation' of the remaining military-based regimes in Central America and the Caribbean region must therefore be considered encouraging.

The assumption of power by the armed forces in Bangladesh in 1975 and in Pakistan in 1977 was inseparable from their fear of the changing political balance with the Indian subcontinent and the strategic consequence of civilian 'weakness' or 'rashness'. The

struggle of political factions within the armed forces of Afghanistan since the fall of the monarchy in 1973, has now culminated in the direct military intervention of the Soviet Union in a strategically sensitive state. Here, too, in the successive transfers of power, external considerations were of primary importance.

External pressures

Another striking example of the effect of external pressures has been that of Thailand, where a succession of military governments was brought to an end in 1973 by the spontaneous revolt of students and others in the capital, Bangkok. As the war in Indochina was coming to an end, the civilian government that succeeded requested the withdrawal from Thai soil of US forces, and extended friendly overtures to the new governments of Kampuchea and Vietnam.

In Africa, too, the maintenance of a military style government in Ethiopia is understandable in terms of that country's conflict with its neighbour, Somalia, and the unresolved boundary questions of the Horn continue to cut across ideological lines and generate a degree of political instability that shows itself from time to time in acts of sudden violence.

Elsewhere many observers have been dispirited into believing that military governments can only be overthrown by armed force. But in Africa, as elsewhere, that force has either to be very large, as in Uganda, or to come suddenly from an unexpected quarter, as in Ghana or the Central African Empire in 1979, to succeed. The maintenance and extension of civilian rule in West Africa, at any rate, seems to stem rather from a calming down of past tensions, coupled, perhaps, with a measure of returning economic confidence.

Military governments have proved no more economically competent than civilian ones, and their members find it much more congenial to accept a constitutional political role if that civilian government to which they are expected to remain loyal can afford to give them what they take to be their due as the defenders of the state and of national independence.

If the causes of military intervention are often in part external, the factors acting to maintain military governments are internal. As several recent examples have shown, individual military officers in politics can and do act for ideological, and even at times for altruistic motives.

South/Third World Media

Drought, rebellion threaten the security of Mozambique

By Tony Hodges

MAPUTO — As Mozambique's Frelimo government struggles through its worst crisis since independence, President Samora Machel is preparing to visit Europe later this month with begging bowl in hand.

Southern Mozambique has been ravaged by a terrible drought for almost two years. Nearly two million people are completely dependent on famine relief sent by foreign aid donors. Anti-government guerrillas are running much of the countryside, disrupting roads and railways. The cities are short of food, and the country's coffers are empty. The drought, which is affecting four million people on peasant farms — a third of total population — in provinces south of Zambezi, is the worst for decades. Local United Nations experts say 70 per cent of the normal cereal harvest in the south was lost in 1982 and 90 per cent this year.

Water is dangerously short in Maputo, the capital, and rain does not fall soon, the city's supply could dry up. With emergency foreign aid, 80 deep wells are being drilled now in the city. Relief in the rural areas is being hampered by anti-Frelimo guerrillas of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR). They were once backed by the Smith regime in former (Rhodesia) now Zimbabwe and operated mainly in areas near the border. When white minority rule ended in Zimbabwe, the MNR's leaders moved to South Africa. By the end of 1981, guerrilla groups were crossing directly from the Transvaal into the Mozambique provinces of Gaza and Inhambane.

By August 1982, there was yet another front, further north, in the province of Zambezia, bordering southern Malawi. The MNR's objective, a Western diplomat said, is to make the country ungovernable. The guerrillas are burning down shops, mining roads and railways, and ambushing traffic, bringing commerce and transport to a halt. Only a few of the guerrillas appear to have political objectives. Most, it seems, are hungry rural teenagers who, with guns from MNR, rule like local warlords in regions where government administration has collapsed.

Shaken by the spread of the insurgency, President Machel has assumed personal control of the armed forces. The Frelimo army, which fought a long guerrilla war against Portugal, is being retained for bush warfare, and a thousand troops from Zimbabwe have been brought in to guard the vital railway and oil pipeline from the port of Beira to the Zimbabwe border. Since their arrival, there have been no serious attacks on the railway or pipeline, which were once prime rebel targets.

Frelimo has been organizing militias to supplement the regular army. Trains, for example, are now protected by squads of armed railway workers. The anarchic tactics

of the rebels, or 'banditos' as Frelimo calls them, appear to have dented their popularity in many regions. This is particularly evident in the southern provinces of Gaza and Inhambane, where village militias have been



President Machel of Mozambique

created following successful counter-insurgency sweeps by the security forces this year, during which hundreds of rebels were captured and several of their leaders executed.

The MNR may also have been weakened by infighting. Last April, its secretary-general, Orlando Cristina, was murdered in South Africa, apparently in retaliation for plotting to depose the movement's president, Afonso Dhlakama. But rebel bands, albeit smaller than before, still operate in the southern provinces, planting mines on roads and the railway from Maputo to Zimbabwe. And further north, in the rich, densely populated province of Zambezia, the insurgency has spread dramatically this year. Last month, during a visit to the provincial capital, Quelimane, President Machel acknowledged that, of all Mozambique's 10 provinces, Zambezia is "the most seriously affected by banditry, causing great damage to our economy."

MNR began moving into Zambezia, using bases in Malawi, in August last year. Since then, Mozambican officials have held talks with Malawi, which now officially bars the MNR from its territory. However, some rebel groups are still thought to be slipping back and forth across the border undetected.

Reinforcements and supplies are apparently reaching the guerrillas by sea from South Africa; arms crates have been discovered on beaches along the province's 400 kilometre coastline.

Observer News Service

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world

North Korea provides Africa Bangladeshi economy improves with military expertise

By Barry Shlachter

VICTORIA, Seychelles — North Korea is playing an increasing role in Africa as a purveyor of military expertise.

In some countries such as Uganda, North Korean army instructors fill positions once held by Israelis before most member nations of the Organization of African Unity broke ties with the Jewish state after the 1973 Middle East war.

More than a dozen countries on the continent, from Burundi to Zimbabwe, have invited in North Korean military since 1971. And an estimated 3,000 African military personnel were sent to bases in North Korea for instruction during a 10-year period ending in 1981. Asian diplomatic sources said.

The scope of the training missions range in size from a handful of men in Zambia and 20 in Libya to more than 200 at one time in Somalia.

The Seychelles, an Indian Ocean republic which considers itself part of the African region, became the latest recipient of Pyongyang's growing military co-operation programme when about 55 North Korean instructors and interpreters landed on its palm-fringed shores last April.

Area specialists say the military programmes amount to an effort by North Korean President Kim Il-Sung, whose country is unable to give much economic aid because of a hard currency shortage. South Korea has generally given aid in the form of construction teams, instructors in Tae kwon do (Korean-style judo), and civilian vehicles.

North Koreans in Seychelles

The North Koreans play a controversial role that illustrates how complicated the motives for inviting them can be. They replace unpopular Tanzanian troops who are gradually being phased out. Their task is to rebuild a 750-man ground force that staged a two-day mutiny a year ago — which many Seychellois blame the Tanzanians for mishandling.

The North Koreans' presence has puzzled some diplomatic observers, who note that their's is one of the most extreme Marxist states, and the advisers arrived as the Seychelles Socialist regime was moving to moderate a militant image which had hurt tourism.

Western diplomatic sources in East Africa say they are concerned by the Koreans' arrival because even a tiny force of professional soldiers has disproportion-

ate influence in a country this small. The population is 65,000 — smaller than in Limerick, Ireland. Nevertheless, security considerations have been paramount to the Islands' President, France Albert Rene, since 45 South African-based mercenaries arrived in an abortive bid to oust him. Rene himself had taken over in a 1977 coup with just 35 men behind him, and his trust in the Seychelles people's defence forces diminished during the August, 1982, mutiny. At least nine Seychellois died in that incident.

Despite official denials, the public has blamed the fatalities on the Tanzanians, whose dozen advisers had been reinforced by 200 men after the 1981 coup attempt. The Seychellois also express resentment against assignment of the Tanzanian to stand security duty at the airport and elsewhere.

Maj. James Michel, chief of staff, said the Tanzanians are now being phased out, with North Koreans taking over many of their training duties.

"In a few years we want to have one of the best trained and disciplined forces in the Indian Ocean," said Maj. Michel, who is also minister of information and education. "And you have to get one of the most disciplined people in the world, the North Koreans. If you want the job done."

Asked why North Korea was chosen over a more neutral country, he said "the Swedes or Yugoslavs would sit on their hands if mercenaries attacked again. We know the North Koreans would fight to defend us."

Unlike the 160 Tanzanians now in the Seychelles, who are seen guarding strategic areas, the North Koreans are rarely noticed — except when running on a beach in nylon jogging outfits, residents say.

But some Western diplomats in Africa believe that North Korean military personnel have taken part in anti-guerrilla operations in Uganda, whose rebels reportedly killed a colonel and a captain North of Kampala in August, 1982.

In Zimbabwe

The most controversial of Pyongyang's training missions is the one in Zimbabwe. At the peak of the North Korean presence, 160 instructors whipped into shape the 5,000-member 5th brigade, a special unit raised by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe to counter armed dissidents.

By James W. Halton

DHAKA (AP) — One good thing about martial law is that you can cut through bureaucratic roadblocks and get things done, Lt. Gen. H.M. Ershad has been quoted as saying.

Gen. Ershad, who has been running the martial law regime in Bangladesh has cut through such roadblocks more than once during the past year.

Sometimes the results have been mixed. But overall, the General's economic policy has drawn praise for moving this impoverished Asian nation, once called the world's "basket case," in the right direction.

The Bangladesh aid consortium of industrial countries and world financial institutions expressed confidence in the country's economic progress at its annual meeting in Paris pledging \$1.8 billion in aid for Bangladesh for the next fiscal year — \$350 million more than this year.

Ershad announced a new industrial policy 1 June 1982, less than three months after he took power in a bloodless coup. Under the policy, the government handed back to their former owners more than 50 jute and textile mills and auctioned 70 smaller companies to the highest bidders. All had been nationalized after independence in 1971.

"Our aim was to promote investment in the country and to allow more free enterprise to operate," said Shaiful Azam, minister of industry and commerce. "We felt we have to give a greater share to the private sector. They have a reputation for dynamism better than the public sector."

The minister said with a smile that "there were many 'doubting Thomases' when we announced the policy, but that the companies had been returned to their former owners in record time."

"We announced the policy in June, negotiations began in October and transfers started in late November and were completed by the end of January," Azam said in an interview. "We were able to cut through the red tape."

The minister added that it still was too early to tell if the policy will be successful but that the last few months have been quite promising.

Ershad has launched other cut-through-bureaucracy policies — for example, a tough new drug policy to ban 1,700 unnecessary — which have run into more vociferous criticism from the manufacturers involved.

"But the economic area is where (Ershad) gets the highest marks," said one western diplomat here. Another called it a good liver oil year because Ershad administered doses of unpopular but long overdue reforms that should bring results in the future.

"There was the disastrous period of nothing happening just before (Ershad) took over, the diplomat said. "The corruption of the previous government gave him a good place to start. He put good policies into effect and let the economic side operate by itself."

The diplomat was referring to the late President Ziaur Rahman, who was assassinated in a coup attempt in 1981. Ershad ousted Zia's successor, President Abdus Sattar, in March 1982, charging Sattar

had failed to root out corruption in the government.

"Ershad also budgeted in the right way for the first time in history. Before, it was a wish list and falsifying the books to cover it. It meant nothing. This year he took the resources available and budgeted around it," continued the diplomat.

Another major factor was Ershad's ending of government subsidies for petroleum products, electricity and fertilizer. It also was accomplished quickly — by July. It immediately pushed up the artificially low prices of those items by about 40 per cent, but the regime was able



Gen. Ershad

shift blame for the price rises onto previous governments.

The sharp rise in petroleum prices also led individuals to use less. And although industrial consumption increased, the country's oil import bill remained about the same.

Bangladesh's balance of payments was further aided by an all time high in remittances from the labourers it sends to Middle East countries. These payments are expected to hit \$630 million for the fiscal year that ends 30 June 1984.

And while the increased aid provided by the aid consortium reflects inflation to some extent, it also represents a real boost in resources to help the economy recover, planning commission member A.H. Sadatullah told the Associated Press.

"Given this, we can import at the 20 billion dollar level next year," he said. The calculation counts an estimated \$70 million in export earnings and \$650 million in wage remittances.

Although Bangladesh's fortunes remain closely linked with nature — the economy is very much at the mercy of floods, droughts, hurricanes and tornadoes — Sirgey predicted a 6.7 per cent growth in the economy next year.

"The feeling is that if one year is bad, normally it will be good the next year. We had 3.8 per cent growth this year and 4.8 per cent last year. We assume next year the growth will be faster," he said.

IN BRITAIN

ing at the Martyrs Mausoleum have apprehended a non-Burmese Asian in connection with the attack, informed sources said Tuesday. The man, who was tried to blow himself up after being sighted by police Monday night as he rowed down a Rangoon creek in a stolen boat. The unidentified man, who does not speak Burmese, remained in a court at a military hospital. Police said they believe he tried to blow himself up with a grenade when security men, who had ordered him to halt, chased his boat.

The man, described as fair-skinned and middle-aged, was rowing toward the Rangoon river when security men tried to force him ashore.

• **MELBOURNE** — Several multimillion dollar arms deals with the Philippines have been blocked because of growing tension in that country. According to a newspaper report, the "Age" newspaper said it had learned that the Minister of Defence Support Brian Howe had ordered a hold on a plan to overhaul some 120 Swedish-made navy guns for the Philippines. Howe also has refused to approve the transfer of technology to construct a factory in the Philippines to manufacture propellants for rockets and shells, the newspaper said.

• **RANGOON** — Government security officials investigating Sunday's bombing

On the search for peace in the Middle East

Controversial ICO conference begins

By Mark A. Bruzonsky
Special to the Star

WASHINGTON — A three day conference on the search for peace in the Middle East will be opened at the International Club in Washington 13 October by the Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO). Secretary General Mr. Habib Chatti. The conference which is financed by the ICO and sponsored by the American University, is said to be an unusual and controversial conference being held in the American capital.

Background

Nearly 3 years ago a Pakistani official of the ICO began attempts to organize a Washington conference on Jerusalem. He was completely unsuccessful after repeated attempts. Earlier this year Hamdi Salah, a young Egyptian on leave from the foreign service, began efforts to arrange a conference on Middle East peace. That conference was originally scheduled to be held at the Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Somehow, though their purposes are substantially at odds (for the original ICO conference was not even going to allow Egyptian government officials to participate), the desired ICO conference and the Hamdi Salah conference became merged. After a lunch that brought together ambassador Lucius Battle, the ICO official and Salah, an initial cheque for \$30,000 was presented to Battle who heads the foreign policy institute at SAIS.

But after further investigation, Battle — a former Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East and a careful Washington personality highly knowledgeable about Middle East affairs — decided the conference was being improperly organized and would neither contribute to Middle East peace nor bring together the right persons for an Arab-American dialogue. Consequently Battle took the highly unusual step of returning most of the \$30,000 to the ICO and washing his hands entirely from the conference. In a town where money usually dominates such decisions, and in view of the foreign policy institute's known hunger for just such supportive funding, Battle's decision was all the more unusual, though he remains unwilling to discuss the specific reasons for his decision.

Lacking a base for sponsorship, Hamdi Salah together with a former colleague from SAIS, Dimitry Simes, attempted to

find other sponsorship from other institutions involved in foreign policy. Failing to do so they arranged to have the conference co-sponsored by American University — and in fact the ICO sponsorship is being greatly downplayed even though the entire budget is subsidized by the ICO.

Incompetence

An ironic development noticed is that the conference is being manipulated, albeit indirectly, by the Egyptian government which is using the gathering to show that Egyptian diplomats are fully accepted at such a meeting together with representatives from Arab governments who are scheduled, according to the organizers, to attend. Both Egypt's ambassador in the US, Ashraf Ghorbal, and Egypt's ambas-

ador in Canada, Tabseer Basheer, have been aiding the conference organizers and will be personally attending. It appears that the ICO has gotten itself into this political mess through a combination of incompetence, ignorance and deception. "The Arabs aren't even able to organize one single affair like this in the right way. This proves their total incompetence. They are belittling the Arab world with this conference. They don't even know who their friends and who their enemies are," noted one former Arab diplomat in

Washington. Though refusing to take on the role and responsibility of conference co-director, Simes is in fact functioning in that capacity. He is being well-paid for his efforts from the ICO funds, and indeed it seems unlikely the conference would take place at all without his efforts to enlist a variety of well-known Americans. Nevertheless, he is a newcomer to Middle East affairs, someone very careful to accommodate the needs of the Washington establishment.

Questionable

The conference is now being termed "the search for peace in the Middle East" — but it is clear from the prospective list of invitees — exclusively Arabs and Americans — that the normal broad categories of participation are not going to be found at this conference. Indeed, when questioned about this very matter the organizers are quick to point out that "this particular gathering would be for an Arab-American dialogue."

Simes has played a very major role in some of the key and most controversial decisions about whom to invite. The organizers decided only to invite academic or business-world Palestinians, specifically ruling out any participation from Palestinians representing the PLO. "They would be too controversial," the organizers are known to believe. According to them, the ICO is fully aware and fully supportive of the decision to eliminate any PLOs in a conference which is supposed to be a dialogue between Arabs and Americans about peace in the Middle East, including resolving the Palestinian question. Even if this is so, it seems highly unlikely the ICO is fully aware of the Jewish participation chosen, largely at Simes' suggestion.

When asked about the one PLO-linked personality who is on their tentative list, Dr. Nabil Shaath in Cairo, the organizers said that he is invited as president of Team International and they do not know of his PLO connection. It is well known, however, that ever since Dr. Shaath took on an active role with the PLO during the past year his US visa was made invalid.



Habib Chatti

Shamir to speed up settlements

By Raj Isphahani

WILL Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, the new Israeli Prime Minister's coalition government, follow the political strategy pursued by Mr. Menachem Begin? Upon replacing Mr. Begin as leader of the Herut (Freedom) Party, Shamir appealed for continuity of both the coalition and its policies.

Like Begin, Shamir spent his formative years in Poland and migrated to Palestine as a young man. And like Begin, he soon became a member of an underground movement, later becoming the wanted leader of the Stern Gang — known to its members as the "Israeli Freedom Fighters". It is hardly surprising that Mr. Shamir has been reluctant to discuss his role in the historic struggle against the British. He is widely credited with having masterminded not only the murder of Lord Moyne, the British Minister Resident in the Middle East, in Cairo, but also the assassination of Count Bernadotte, the United Nations mediator in Jerusalem in 1948. Though the British eventually captured Shamir and exiled him to Eritrea, he managed to escape, as he had done from prison on two other occasions, and was granted political asylum in France.

Since taking office as Israel's foreign minister in 1980, Shamir has followed Mr. Begin on key policy matters, although Shamir's own approach has often been sharper, making Mr. Begin appear distantly moderate. He was firmly in favour of the invasion of Lebanon, the 1981 bombing of the Osirak nuclear reactor in Iraq and the annexation of the Golan Heights. As a man who opposed the Camp David agreements with Egypt, he will definitely pursue a hard line in dealing with Israel's Arab neighbours as well as with the Palestinians of the occupied West Bank of the Jordan.

It was the pledge to speed up Jewish settlement programmes in the West Bank that enabled Mr. Shamir to secure enough support in the Knesset to form the next Israeli government. The plan is to go beyond existing proposals to increase the Jewish population in the West Bank from its current 35,000 to 60,000 within two years and to achieve a figure of 1,200,000 by the end of this century. Mr. Shamir is known to have a biblical right to believe that Israel has a biblical right to sovereignty over the West Bank. Such a policy, though very unpopular, abroad is supported by a large proportion of the Israeli population.

Mr. Shamir's rise to power has also seen the return to the political mainstream of Mr. Ariel Sharon, the disgraced former defence minister held responsible by the Kahan Commission for the Sabra and Shatila massacres in Lebanon in September 1982. Presently minister without portfolio in the Israeli cabinet, there is speculation that Sharon will be rewarded for rallying support for Shamir in the

Knesset by being given the Ministry for West Bank settlement.

On the subject of annexing the West Bank Shamir said "I have never talked of annexation, nor do I think about annexation. In the very near future we will have to take care and exert efforts so that the process agreed upon at Camp David be-

tween Israel, Egypt and the US will continue and so that the accords will be implemented in practice."

There is growing uncertainty if Mr. Shamir is likely to have much time in office. Whereas Mr. Begin enjoyed the status of a national hero, it is unlikely that Mr. Shamir will achieve the same authority and political influence. This stems partly from the fact that he has not fought and won a general election. Parliamentary legitimacy is usually enough for a caretaker government but a democratic leader gains greater power both at home and abroad to govern effectively if he has secured a popular mandate.

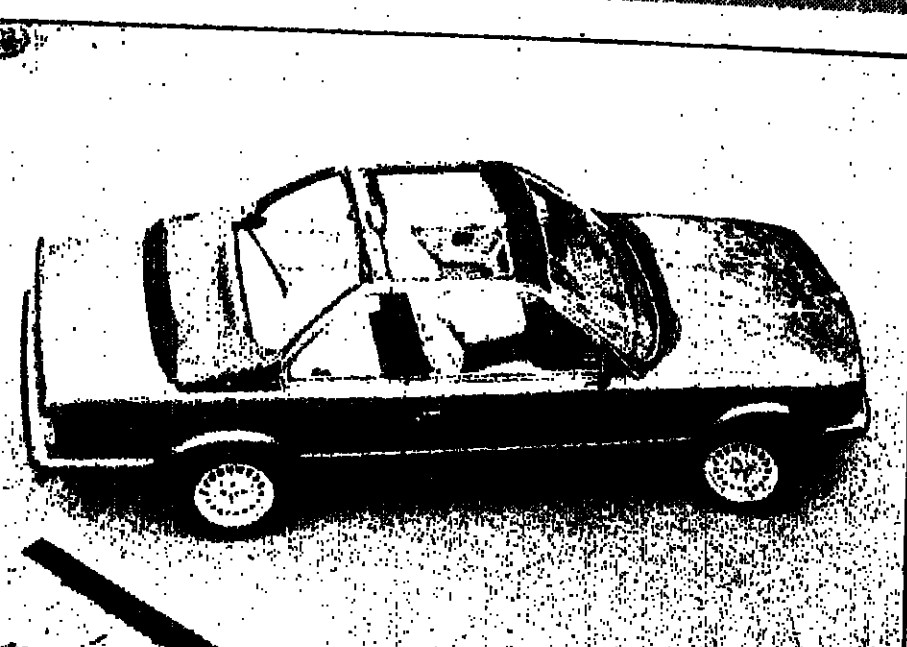
Latest indications according to a public opinion poll in the Daily Haaretz on 28th September are that if Shamir were to call a general election that the opposition Labour Party would secure 39.2 per cent of the popular vote compared with 35.5 per cent for his Likud coalition. In the last general election, two years ago Likud secured 37.1 per cent against Labour's 35.6 per cent. Another survey in the Jerusalem Post shows that if the Likud coalition were led by the extremely popular Defence Minister Moshe Arens they would gain an eight seat majority over the Shimon Peres led Labour Party. With the Begin factor now removed from the Israeli political forum the next elections are likely to be very closely contested.



Shamir

(South/Third World Media)

What's New



FRESH AIR, BMW - style. The new BMW 3-series can now be ordered in Cabriolet form with conversion by German coachbuilder Bauer, say the importers.

Fully enclosed, with steel roof panel in place and rear quarters of flexible material in the fixed position; With steel roof panel removed (it clips into the boot) to give an open sunroof effect.

With steel panel and rear hood down to provide fully open motoring. Prices range from JD 5,000 for the 316 to JD 6,000 for the 323.

18 THE JERUSALEM STAR

The Palestinian dilemma or purgatory?

WITH THE withdrawal of Palestinian PLO fighters from Lebanon a little over a year ago, the Palestinian question immediately entered a very critical stage which has left its mark on the Palestinian movement at large. Whether the consequences thereof are for the worse or the better it cannot be judged haphazardly at the moment; only forthcoming developments will have to decide the issue. What can be done now is only to study present events, and then to arrive at conclusions therefrom.

Admittedly, it is no easy question to deduce objective data on the problem. Not only are Palestinian amassments scattered over more than one spot both in the Arab world and outside it, but such amassments also carry different and diverse outlooks (at least on the surface). They are exposed to different and diverse pressures according to the various local environments they happen to have settled in. Even so, perhaps the occupied territories of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip might be one of the spots. Where the general stance of the population from current events might be indicative.

Another area is the remainder of the PLO superstructure and institutions which, though scattered on the whole, still carry a great impact on the whole problem. One would have liked to have included 'Israeli-Arabs' and the Palestinian - expatriate elite in the West; but unfortunately either the tendency to overcomplicate things or the insufficient information available holds one hand.

To start with, Westbankers, who have been exposed to all sorts of theft, displacement, intimidation and repression at their very homes, have come up against a number of factors, regional and international which constrain the possibilities for developing a strategy of resistance to this grand theft and dispossession," as the Merip Report Washington, of June 1983 puts it. First, certain political setbacks both internal and external, have shaken the unofficially proclaimed political leadership in the occupied territories since 1978. This leadership was formed at that time at a conference in Jerusalem and emerged with the National Guidance Council (NGC), comprising mainly mayors and municipal officials, trade unionists, clergy, intellectuals and professionals to oppose the Camp David accords and the 'autonomy' project.

The Council, although officially unrecognized by the PLO, endorsed the policy of this organization and accepted its patronage in Palestinian affairs. But internally, ever since its formation, Israeli authorities have never stopped undermining the authority of the NGC in which they saw a real threat to their schemes in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Well-known are the attempts, surreptitiously encouraged by the Israeli authorities, at the lives of the three mayors of the cities of Nablus, Ramallah and Al-Birah. Well-known, too, are the successive depositions of the mayors of Nablus, Birah, Ramallah, Hebron, Anabta, Gaza, and also the repatriation of the mayors Milhem and Qawasmir of Halhul and Hebron respectively.

Having broken the backbone of the NGC, Israel began to play its game against the trade unionists of the urban areas and the peasants of the countryside. Its game was indirect and many-sided. The authorities discouraged independent local Palestinian economic projects. The dispossession of land to set up settlements, and the encouraging of daily-wage labour inside Israel itself, as well as the siege of refugee camps both in the West Bank and especially in the Gaza Strip — all these were factors which at one end diluted, in a way, the labour movement, and at another end induced agriculturalists to move from the villages and camps into the more safe areas within the cities to seek their fortunes mainly in trade.

The only class of the population that has gathered force, meanwhile, was the middle-class bourgeoisie, who also got the greatest portion of the Arab states' 'steadfastness' money, supposed to stiffen occupation resistance in the occupied territories. The middle class aspirants naturally received support from their brethren comprador bourgeoisie in the Arab countries.

Externally, the only area wherefrom the national movement of the occupied territories expected new impetus; namely, the PLO, suffered no less weakening setbacks. First its defeat, withdrawal from Lebanon, and the eradication of its infrastructure there left deep marks on the Westbankers. Secondly, the PLO leadership's tilting shift towards the right, expressed in its readiness to discuss certain compromising plans under the pressure of the defeat, confused the population of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. And thirdly and finally, the split within Fateh, the strongest contingent of the PLO, has been somehow so vaguely misinterpreted that it has added to the gloominess of the picture, although not sadly so to the enlightened.

By Henry Matar

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It seems as if the student movement in the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip points to some rays of hope for solidarity. So far it has steered its way safe aslip all contradictory tugs-of-war it has been exposed to by conflicting parties to the political scene in occupied Palestine. It has rebuffed the attempts of Israeli authorities to make a breakthrough, depending upon certain hired groups, as the Najah University incidents last year proved.

The student movement has even delayed Israeli counter measure to close down University of Beir Zeit by going more cautious for a time lest high institutions of learning be lost.

1984

I WAS in Cairo last week to attend a special meeting for WorldPaper editorial staff at which the cover story of the January 1984 issue was discussed. Almost a unanimous yes was voiced on a suggestion to dedicate the issue to George Orwell's novel "1984". I agreed, for this was one chance in a life time to curiously look at our world in 1984 and compare it to how Orwell imagined it to be.

I thought about that for sometime as I watched an old steamboat sailing slowly down the Nile from my hotel window. I have read Orwell's story a few years ago and have felt like many others an alarming fear of how our world will look like in this celebrated year of this century. One thing I thought Orwell failed to see was that our world is becoming politically fragmented, which is opposite to what the Indian-born British writer suspected to happen. There are more states and countries now than 20 years ago, and even the so-called superpowers have increased in number to include China and probably India. Orwell thought that there will be three main powers in his year of 1984.

On the other hand, Orwell believed that the citizens of Eurasia (his fabled gigantic state with London as its capital) were deprived of almost all sorts of freedoms and pleasures. Today the number of people who can travel, buy and obtain whatever they like is far more than anybody expected few years ago. A Pan American Airlines official told me that only 40 years ago travelling by air was thought to be the most exclusive way of transportation and that Pan Am representatives knew their customers by name. I thought about that as I was boarding an Alia flight from Cairo to Am-

man with more than 90 per cent of the passengers being Egyptian "falabeen" from Lower Egypt.

Orwell's government was a strictly centralized one with Big Brother presiding and tele-screens monitoring every move one made. Today we have more than one government in one country or better still no government at all in others. As for the notion of one state or country we are still busy trying to unite Lebanon, Cyprus, South and North Korea, East and West Germany, South and North Yemen in addition to others.

So I asked myself if this was good or bad. Are we lucky that the omen of Orwell's "1984" was not fulfilled or does it matter at all? I think Orwell had it wrong although part of his predictions came true. The world by large is divided today and will be in 1984 — between rich and poor, powerful and weak. The Big Brother in Orwell's novel is not a person but economic powers and multinational corporations, which provide us with cars, food, cigarettes, telephones, oil and health treatment if we can afford it.

Truly the world is fragmented but it is united in its need for power and wealth and in the process of doing so it provides its own victims and inflicts war and death.

It will be interesting to watch how the world will behave in 1984 in order to prove the invalidity of Orwell's predictions. But this is not what Orwell wanted us to do or think about after reading "1984". I think. It doesn't really matter if we escaped the 1984 omen or not or if we love Big Brother or hate him (it). What really matters is will we be proud of our world in 1984 or not?

Kamel
Abu
Jaber

"Portraits of a society in transition"

Greetings to Jerusalem!

HE LOOKED like an old man, a very old man; though later it became clear he was no more than fifty years of age. I picked him up on my way home from the university one sunny afternoon. By the time I stopped for him, he had been on the road for several hours hitch-hiking from his village near Ajloun to his daughter's home in Wadi Sir near Amman.

Looking at him, I had the impression that the lines on his face had settled into fatalistic acceptance of anything that had happened or may yet happen to him. An impression that was soon confirmed.

No, he does not work nor does he have any property or other means of support. The limp, which happened to him in an accident a few years back, prevents him from holding a proper job or even seeking daily labour. His son, and now, with some help from his son-in-law, keep him and his family from complete poverty.

For him life seemed like a series of accidents somehow connected through some incomprehensible grand design. "What is written will take place no matter what man may say or do", he said, "that is why the happy man is the man who is satisfied with what he has; the person who accepts the condition of his life and all that comes his way". In his elucidation of this point, he quoted another popular proverb. "Acceptance of one's lot is an inexhaustible treasure....". "God is the giver of wealth or poverty and in his infinite wisdom and foresight, he distributes according to his wish....". But he added, "God is also merciful....". God never gives life even to a bird without providing for it....". After all, he later elaborated, "this life is only transitory, a way-station along the road to eternity....".

The simplicity of his convictions has a certain logic to it. The man was not apologetic nor was he explaining his life or his beliefs. He was merely stating facts as he knows them.

"Happiness", he explained, "is to accept your lot in life; nothing happens that is not God's will and in accordance with his design". He does not know whether he is happy or unhappy. He never thinks about such things for then life would become too complicated. "Why attempt to change what cannot be changed? Only He, the changer that never changes can change things....".

"God", he said, "willed that he marry the first time and that this union would produce six daughters". "No, nothing wrong with the first wife", whom he still keeps. It is only "kithbuhah", what was written for her. God also willed that he marry a second time; and that this second marriage produce six boys. Only the eldest daughter is married, the rest are still too young. No, he does not know how old his eldest daughter is. He spoke about his life as if someone else were living it and as if he had little or nothing to do with what happened to him. Things simply happen to him, he seems never to have initiated anything.

His married daughter is unhappy though he knows not why. She told him that her husband is too cruel, too demanding, and sometimes inconsiderate. She told her father he treats her like an object, rarely talks to her or explains anything. The father is puzzled and he muses: "Why should her husband explain anything to her or even talk to her except when there is a need. Is she there to be pleased or simply to become a wife and a mother?" "Her husband", he adds, "has a good provider, what else does a woman want?"

"Al-sutrah" should be the prime value in the life of a man or a woman. "Al-sutrah" where no-one should know about their internal affairs and where a facade of a moral and contented life is to be projected to the outside world. No woman should demand more than that, nor should she ask her husband to share anything with her. Only the man has the right to decide. After all, he added "the morsel of life is in his hands....".

This is one type, one image in a society whose values, styles and tools are rapidly changing. It is an important type, the strength of whose values rests on their simplicity.

Since no one has ever defined, with any degree of exactitude, what the happy life is, these values remain as strong as any other existing in the society. Only the challenges that we are facing in this century make the questioning of these values of immediate importance.

Modernization internally and the Zionist Israeli challenge externally necessitate a serious debate concerning our present and our future values. Not only Adam Smith and Karl Marx but Al-Afghani, Qasem Amin, Michael Aflaq and all reformers and revolutionaries would or should debate these issues.



Korean Airline tragedy

To the editor:

Your Star Staff Writer who authored the article The Korean air tragedy, Who is to blame?, Jerusalem Star, 15-21 September, 1983 is poorly informed. Therefore I have responded point-by-point to the comments.

Facts: KAL flight 007 was not on an espionage mission. It was a routinely scheduled commercial airliner which flew from Alaska to Seoul, Korea 5 times each week. There is no need for any ally of the USA to use commercial airlines for espionage purposes.

The Soviets, however, do use commercial airlines for espionage. This fact may help explain their trigger happy paranoia. Following are three examples of Soviet and Soviet satellite violations of sensitive American airspace —

- a. In 1981, an Aeroflot jet strayed over a US navy base in Connecticut just as the first in a new series of nuclear submarines was about to be launched.
- b. In March, 1983 a Cuban airliner strayed over a US air force base in New York state where air launched missiles are tested.
- c. In August, 1983 an airliner from the People's Republic of China strayed over a B-52 bomber installation in North Dakota. None of these planes were shot down.

2) "....and all attempts to get the pilot to land for questioning failed." There were no attempts by the Soviets to get the KAL pilot to land.

- a. Japanese ground control tapes record only Soviet pilots and Soviet ground control in communication with each other, never with the KAL jet.
- b. Soviet planes cannot receive or transmit radio frequencies with anyone except their own ground control. Their planes are so designed to discourage pilot defection.
- c. The KAL pilot made no radio reports of any kind that he had been contacted by anyone. His contacts with Tokyo air controllers continued to be only normal until the KAL jet was hit.

3) "....why the ground controls of the USA who were allegedly monitoring the flight did not inform the airliner that he was on a wrong course."

The electronic monitors record across many frequencies and are only later translated and sorted out. It is impossible for this equipment to help a plane in distress.

The Japanese ground controllers did not realize until it was too late what the merging blips on their radar screens actually were.

4) "Why did the Korean pilot — knowing fully well that his plane had strayed into an unauthorized area —"

The KAL pilot apparently never had any idea that he was off course. He was flying by INS (Inertial Navigational Systems) which, if misprogrammed, would have shown all normal even if it was not. His radio communications never gave any indication that anything was unusual. He repeatedly reported his position on course (as per INS) and asked for routine instructions and permissions.

5) "....refuse to answer the questions put to him by the Soviet jets?"

There were no questions put to Captain Chun by the Soviet fighter jets. As previously stated, communication from a Soviet fighter jet with another aircraft is impossible. Monitor tapes reveal only communication between Soviet planes and their ground control.

6) "....presupposes that something was wrong with the airliner and he could not have done better than landing to check...."

Again, Captain Chun had no clue that anything was wrong (if his INS were misprogrammed, they would have shown all normal even if it wasn't) and had absolutely no reason to land at that time.

7) "....why did the Korean pilot put out the lights of the airliner as reported by the Soviets?"

Captain Chun had no reason to put out his lights, and did not. What monitor tapes do reveal, however, are Soviet pilots twice reporting that the target strokes and lights were blinking.

The second such report was one minute before target contact with the heat seeking missile, and almost as the KAL jet would have passed back into international airspace (and the Soviets out of their own airspace).

We have the truth. We now have the responsibility to believe it, and not false, garbled cover-ups.

Barbara Dishong Davis
Amman - Jordan

13 October 1983

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The Palestinians have a say

THE COMMUNIQUE of the Reconciliation Committee between the two fighting factions inside the Fateh movement of the PLO, which was issued on Wednesday, reveals to us the grim reality that mutiny within the movement has not been contained and that all efforts to stop the draining of Palestinian potentials have failed.

The report comes at a time when fighting between the loyalist groups and the Syrian-backed mutineers is escalating and when the inevitability of a major clash between the factions is reaching a climax. What increases our sorrow and concern is that the attempts to change the nature of the political structure inside Fateh do not promise of drastic and positive changes inside the movement or the PLO in general.

On the contrary, we feel that the current conspiracy against the leadership of Mr. Yasser Arafat will result only in further weakening of the PLO's structure and the loss of its credibility as the legitimate and only representative of the Palestinian people.

We have called upon the separatists sometime before to consider the seriousness of their challenge to Mr. Arafat at this time and what would result from it. The Palestinian movement has already suffered in the aftermath of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the Syrian actions to isolate and discredit the Palestinian leader.

We ask ourselves what changes will a new form of leadership in the Fateh bring on the current situation that the present leadership cannot achieve. The recent developments in the area do not require a Syrian-controlled PLO to deal with it, but an independent one that expresses the free will of the majority of the Palestinian people. Also if Syria or any other country disagrees or doubts the sincerity of Mr. Arafat and his actions, then, the right way to judge the situation is to refer to the millions of Palestinians all over the world who had accepted the PLO and its leadership as their mouth-piece and representative and ask them to pronounce a sentence.

The unique quality about the Palestinian national liberation movement was its belief in the democratic process and we feel that neither Syria nor any other party has the right to meddle with such a legitimate body of representation. This is not Syria's responsibility, but that of millions of Palestinians whose future depends on the outcome of the present crisis.

A long haul coming

GROWING INTEREST in Amman as a location for international and regional conferences, as evidenced by a string of World Health Organization meetings here, can only be welcomed. The more our meeting centres and hotels are used, the more it will contribute to economic growth and recovery from the effects of the worldwide slump — as the hoteliers must be only too glad to admit.

Reasons given for Amman's acceptability as a conference location have included its central location in the Middle East, relative ease of access by air and modern utilities. To these we might add the remark that the stability and enlightened economic policy of the government, among other reasons, make Jordan politically acceptable to the varied countries represented at the meetings.

But we fear that there is still a long way to go in terms of infrastructural and utilities improvement if Amman is to attain its desired position as a leading regional centre. After the Lebanese troubles of 1975-76 it was expected that many of that country's big businesses would relocate here, bringing with them an influx of fresh capital; that Amman would become the "new Beirut". To a certain extent this has happened; but it has not been enough to justify complacency, or to carry the building boom of the mid-seventies on through the slump years.

One reason for the failure was that at the time, Jordan was simply not ready. Air transport and hotel accommodation were difficult; communications, in particular, were frustrating. As a result many firms that might have set up shop here (turned to other places whose location might not be as convenient, but whose services were more polished).

In many ways we now face the reverse situation. Hotel accommodation is anything but unavailable, and there is a large new airport. Communications still shows lots of room for improvement, but progress is being made. The problem now is one of demand. In today's conditions, few companies are long way to go. If we can keep up and improve the quality of our services, perhaps by hosting more international conferences in coming years, then we may be ready for the firms when they do come back. But it could be a long haul.

UPHOLD 1980

A new look at Jordan

History lover expresses interest in many media
Former hunter has turned from the gun to the camera

By Pam Dougherty
Star Staff Writer

WHEN CAPTAIN Areslan Ramadan (ret'd) was a child he used to swim and fish in the stream at Ras Al-Ain. The water was clean enough to drink, and a keen observer could find chicken duck eggs by the stream's edge. Fruit trees grew in abundance and no one worried when hungry schoolboys helped themselves to the fruit.

Capt. Ramadan remembers the Bedouin bringing firewood to sell, and watering their sheep and camels, at Ras Al-Ain.

The Amman he remembers has all but vanished, and Bedouin life is changing rapidly. Areslan Ramadan has set himself the task of keeping alive a pictorial record of those disappearing worlds.

Part of his work can be seen in a photography exhibition entitled "Jordanian Desert" which opens at the Amra Hotel on 15 October. He will be presenting 90 photographs on all aspects of the life of the desert, the Bedouin, wildflowers, animal life and antiquities.

Capt. Ramadan has always felt a special affinity with the Bedouin. When he was a young boy he spent time in the desert with Bedouin friends of his father. He has warm memories of that time and says he would still prefer to sleep in a tent than in the best hotels of Europe.

He says that most people do not realize how rich the life of the desert is. He goes out regularly to take pictures. Things are always changing and the desert always has something new, even for someone who has spent a lifetime exploring it, he says.

In his exhibition he tries to show the variety of animal and plant life, some of the lesser known antiquities such as Qasr Burq and As-Sarah. And of course he shows the human life — scenes of Azraq where Druze and Shishan collect salt in summer and bring it to Amman for sale; Bedouin making traditional bread, and a photograph of a Bedouin woman with her daughter and granddaughter that illustrates the changing style of Bedouin life.

Capt. Ramadan hasn't spent all his life delving into Jordan's past and present beauties. He was born in Amman, of a Circassian family, in 1934 and went to school here and in Nabulus. When war broke out in 1948 he joined the army and made it his career. He is proud to have spent 16 of his 27 years of service in King Hussein's special guard.

It was only when he retired from the army in 1975 that Capt. Ramadan had time to indulge his love of the history of Jordan and Palestine.

He began to travel widely in Europe, looking at museums and hunting up old books on the Middle East. He now has a collection of 314 including first editions of Burckhardt and David Roberts and a rare 1912 work in old Turkish written by a Turkish general. The book covers Syria, Palestine and Jordan and has beautiful photographs. A US collector once asked him to name his price for the work but he refused to sell.

Naturally book collecting was soon followed by the collecting of old photographs, and in 1982 Capt. Ramadan published his first book "Photographs from the Jordanian and Palestinian Heritage", based on his own collection. The book has proved very successful and a new edition is now in preparation.

Two years ago Capt. Ramadan found a new love — photography. He had been a keen hunter but began to realize how threatened Jordan's wildlife was from careless hunting. Now he shoots only with a camera.

His second book, "Amman, Yesterday and Today", which is due for publication in three months' time, brings together 50

old photographs which show Amman as it was with 50 by Captain Ramadan of the same places today. The next, which traces the history of Amman from the earliest times up to the present, is by Dr. Ghazi Bisheh.

Capt. Ramadan has watched the changes in Amman and would like people to know how the city used to look. Not that he is against all modern developments — he says the Islamic poets wrote glowingly of Amman's greenness and he is happy to see the tree and flower-filled gardens of the new Amman which are restoring some of this greenness. Now he would like to see the development of public parks and gardens throughout the city.

And book number three continues the theme of Capt. Ramadan's current exhibition. To be called "Jordanian Desert", it will be as full an account as possible of the deserts of Jordan.

He is not in a hurry with the work, as he wants it to be as exact as possible. What he wants is to catch the desert in all its aspects, before modern life changes it forever. He is asking specialists in various subjects to contribute — on the Bedouin, animals, plants, antiquities etc.

But Capt. Ramadan's work does not end with his books. At the suggestion of US Ambassador to Jordan Richard Viets, he has produced a range of 15 greeting cards using his desert photographs.

He is also working, with others, on the establishment of a Circassian museum which will display the special items the Circassians brought with them when they settled in Jordan in 1867. Most Jordanians today would be surprised to hear that among the things they brought was the wheel. Capt. Ramadan says at the time all transport here was by animals, and the Circassians were the first to use wheeled transport, mainly to bring their wheat crops into town.

Nails were difficult to find — they had to be brought from Palestine or Syria — so the Circassians made their furniture without. Ramadan still has his family's dining-table which was made this way. The Circassians were also excellent silversmiths and made knives, swords, belts and jewelry.

The old skills are largely lost now, but luckily members of the Circassian community have enough old pieces to establish the museum.

And then? Capt. Ramadan says he has many dreams. He is planning to publish a glossy children's book on Jordan's birds and animals. It will have plenty of pictures and short captions to catch young readers' attention and give them an idea of how rich their country's wildlife is.

He would also like to write a history of the Hashemites from the time of Sherif Hussein until the present.

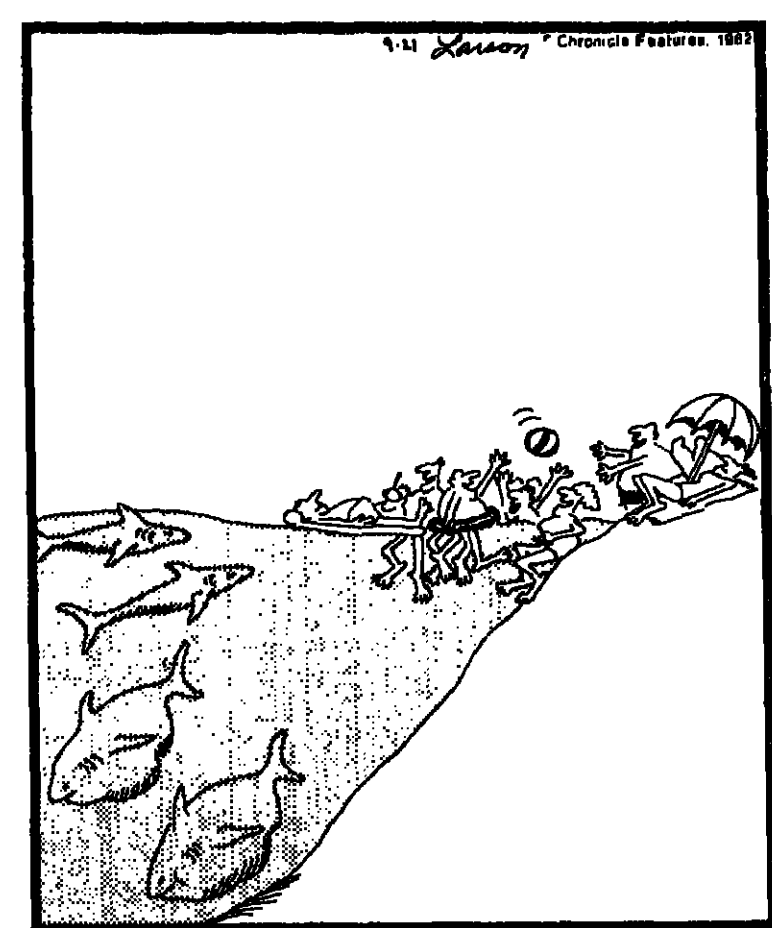
And a final dream? Capt. Ramadan has an 1881 Latin translation of work by the poet Al-Harith 'Al-Yashkur'. He wants to publish the work in English and Arabic and illustrate it with his own photographs.



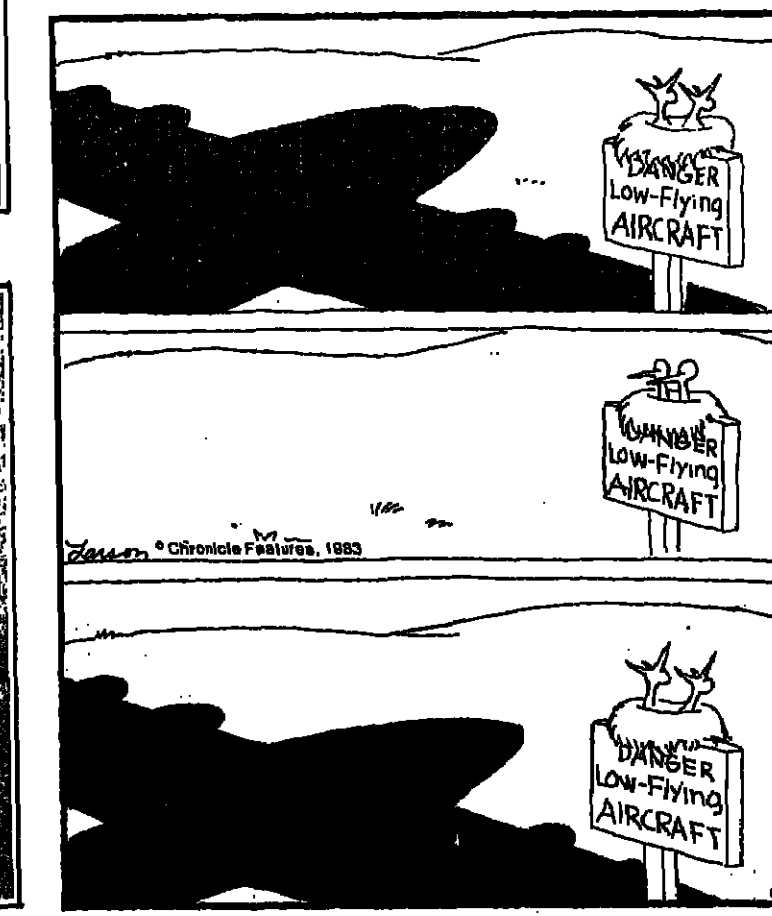
Capt. Ramadan's portrait of a young man



Desert montage: Bedouin hunter; wild horses near Azraq oasis; landscape at Qasr Amra



The
Far Side
By Gary Larson



VIEWPOINT

Al-Ansar's case needs action now

By Ya'acoub Jaber

THE COMPLEXITY of the situation in Lebanon and the crisis within the PLO have obscured a matter of tragic human dimensions: The continued detention of thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians in Al-Ansar camp in South Lebanon.

The world knows very little about what is going on in the camp, which Israel set up following the invasion last year. The few reports which have been published about conditions in the camp portray a sordid picture of men of various ages languishing under atrocious detention. It is history repeating itself; only this time the people who suffered in Nazi concentration camps are inflicting the same atrocity on an innocent people.

The men, numbering about 5,000, have been detained on charges of collaboration with the PLO, although the majority have had nothing to do with the Palestinian commando groups except within the inevitable daily contacts necessitated by the heavy PLO presence in South Lebanon before the invasion. Some of them are teachers in UNRWA schools. Others are doctors and engineers. Most of them have one thing in common: Families left behind without their wage-earning support.

Hopes for their release within an Israeli-PLO deal on the exchange of prisoners have been shattered by the suspension of the talks on the exchange question; probably due to the current PLO crisis. But even if they were set free and allowed to resume their lives, who guarantees that they will not be re-arrested, as long as Israeli troops maintain their occupation of Lebanon? For in several cases in the past, some of them were released, but only for a few days. They were returned to the camp for no stated reasons.

Why is Israel doing this to innocent men responsible for the support of wives, mothers and children? Is it because it wants to increase the bitterness or simply because of fear of the future which those men and their children represent?

Perhaps the more crucial question is why the civilized world and its humanitarian organizations are maintaining silence towards the plight of the Ansar detainees while they make so much fuss about, say, the case of a Soviet dissident. Why, for instance, has Amnesty International failed to refer in any way to Al-Ansar's prisoners in its annual report? Is it because the Lebanese and Palestinians are different from the Poles or Afghans when human rights violations are probed?

We do not want to rush to hasty conclusions, but here we have a case of gross violation of human rights that certainly requires due attention from Amnesty and similar organizations.

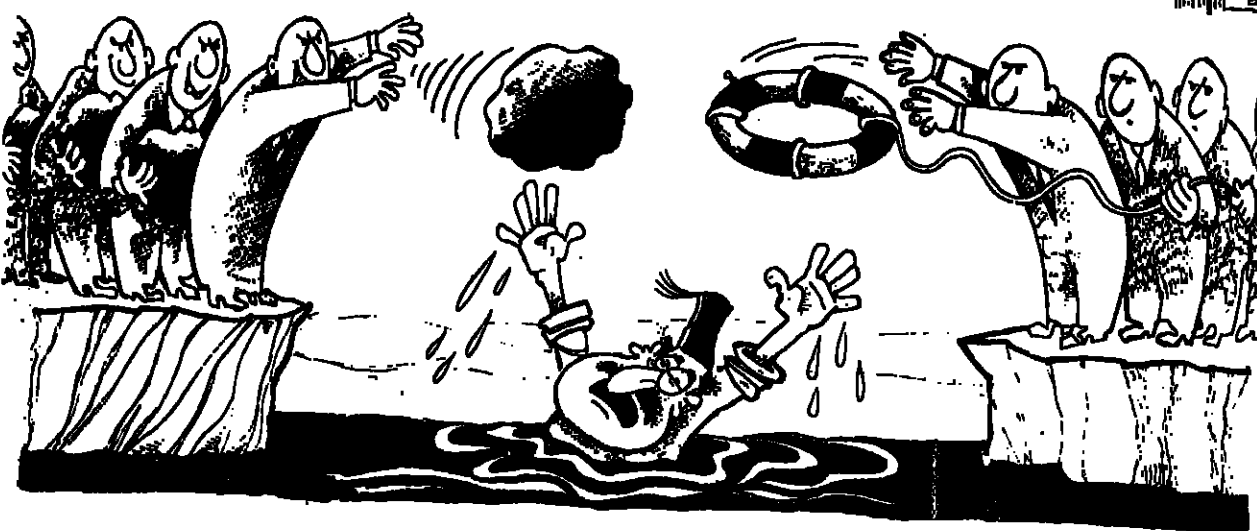
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ambnews



Middle East Editorial Opinion

AN EGYPTIAN newspaper this week calls on the Arabs to be inspired by the glorious spirit of October to work towards the restoration of Arab solidarity, recapture the occupied lands and reinstate the national rights of the Palestinian people.

"Arab solidarity in October 1973 proved to be of decisive effectiveness, and was an expression of an adequate and sound realization of the unity of destiny and objective," writes Al-Ahram.

It expresses confidence that Egypt, along with the rest of the Arab nation, is able to rekindle the spirit of October and achieve victory.

"Before October 1973," says the Cairo newspaper Al-Akhbar, "the world thought that the Arabs were a dead horse. But the crossing of the Suez Canal shattered the illusion and destroyed the myth of the invincibility of the Israeli army."

Al-Raya, a Qatari newspaper, notes that the military success achieved by the Arabs in the 1973 war was the result of close co-operation between Egypt and Syria and the mobilization of Arab political and economic potentials. It calls on Arab states to do the same thing at present, because there is no alternative to unity for repelling the Israeli aggression.

Commenting on President Hosni Mubarak's visit to the United States, the Cairo daily Al-Gomhuriya says Egypt will never give up its pan-Arab commitments and will do all in its power to solve the crisis in Lebanon and bring about a just solution to the Palestinian problem.

The paper praises President Mubarak's remarks in Washington about his refusal to return the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv until Israel pulls out of Lebanon and changes its aggressive policies. It says Egypt is an Arab country and can never afford to change or overlook this fundamental fact.

Surprising sight

On the situation in north Lebanon the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Qabas calls for speedy action to prevent bloodshed among Palestinian and Syrian forces. It says it is very surprising to see Arabs killing each other with the rest of the Arab world watching idly by.

Another Kuwaiti paper, Al-Anba, expresses the view that all efforts to mediate between Syria and the PLO have failed and President Hafez Al-Assad has left no doubt that he intends to deal with a new Palestinian leadership. It says the dissent within Fateh cannot be a Palestinian affair, because geographically Syria controls all the rebels' moves.

Damascus denies that it has anything to do with the rebellion and the developments which followed; but it is impossible to accept Syria's claim of neutrality in the affair because it is natural for Damascus to have a stance towards the rebels as long as it has adopted a stance towards the PLO's chief, the paper remarks.

On Lebanon, the Saudi Arabian newspaper Al-Jazeera voices optimism about the future of national reconciliation, saying that the security situation has become more suitable than ever before for holding a national dialogue. It adds that the climate has become suitable for the first step — namely, the drawing up of an agenda for the projected reconciliation conference. Its main task is to find an acceptable formula ensuring the unity of the Lebanese and realizing their country's independence and sovereignty.

A Kuwaiti newspaper, Al-Rai Al-Aam, writes that all pretexts to delay the holding of the reconciliation conference are unacceptable and there is no reason why the conference should not be held at once, if good intentions exist.

The paper charges that the Phalangists and the government are blocking agreement on holding the conference to avoid facing the truth. It also expresses the view that the two sides are using the ceasefire to re-arm and strengthen their positions.

On the Iraq-Iran war, the newspaper Al-Khaleej of Sharja emirate calls on Algeria and Kuwait to reactivate their mediation effort to end the war. It also appeals to the leaders of the two warring countries to reach peace and turn it into the beginning of an Arab-Islamic awakening so that all resources can be used for the just battle of Palestine.

'Only the beginning'

In Israel, Al Hamishmar predicts that the Shamir government will be facing problems from the first day due to its narrow coalition base. The opposition will attempt to topple the government, which will encounter tough economic problems.

"The confrontation will be tough with the opposition, with the public and inside the government itself," the paper says. "In dealing with the economic situation, the government will place further burdens on the public. The prospects for the future contain only further belt-tightening."

Davar, also in Israel, says that after their "ostentatious and firm" declaration that they would do their best to bring together members of the Likud and the Labour Knesset blocs, the six Agudat Israel deputies retreated, and agreed to join the Shamir government. The manoeuvre succeeded in forcing Shamir and the six-member bloc together, the paper says, "but this success bears the seeds of failure."

Other Israeli papers concentrate on the Israeli financial crisis. Maariv: "The ministerial economic committee required only an eight-hour discussion before announcing the continuation of the present economic policy."

"It seems that all the serious economic issues, such as foreign debt, declining exports, inflation and stock market panic,

are only the inventions of the press to listen to the financial minister."

The minister, Yoram Aridor, has stated all the economic problems in words — on the floor of reality things are going from bad to worse, Maariv warns.

Hatsofeh speaks of a "state of imbalance" in the Israeli monetary system. The Israeli public is converting its savings to foreign currencies outside the monetary system, and Israeli bank accounts are not in shekels, it says.

"We must have comprehensive plan for solving our economic problems in order to curb public consumption, increase exports, curb imports, and set incentives to encourage prosperity in the national economy."

There are no signs the government will succeed in solving the problem because the problem is not economic but political. At any rate, the item of top priority on the new government's agenda has to be the economy, Hatsofeh says.

Yediot Ahronot writes: "The shortage of foreign currency reserves is an indication of the difficulty of foreign financing. The public thinks that the government is not capable of preventing an economic disaster. The minister of finance is blaming the press... yes, the press is to blame for supplying figures given by the office of statistics on the balance of payments, foreign debt and foreign currency balances!"

Haaretz, also in Israel, comments to recent recommendations by former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon. Mr. Sharon cannot admit his ouster from the Ministry of Defence, and he changes his attitude to embarrass his successor, the paper says. "How could he ask for withdrawal from the Shouf while he wants international forces to replace Israeli troops in the evacuated area, but we know he was against the idea in the past!"

It was a mistake by former Premier Menachem Begin to ignore the recommendation of Kahan committee by keeping Mr. Sharon in the cabinet, Haaretz says.

Kotleret Rashit comments on reports of extensive theft by Israeli vacationers from hotels and resorts. "During the holidays, the Israeli individual manifested his desire to travel and also to steal. It used to be said that Israelis steal towels and soap from hotels. After talking to hotel managers, we have discovered that Israelis steal other items too."

"The rising cost of living has enhanced the desire to steal among Israelis. Israeli hotel customers steal pictures, carpets, drapes and furniture. We heard about whole families involved in stealing."

"Do we have to blame our security situation for this, or is it the plain fact that we have become shameless thieves?" the Israeli paper asks.

UN Secretary General:

'UN could find solution for Mideast problem'

Editor's note: Mr. Altaf Gauhar, Editor-in-Chief of the South Magazine interviewed Mr. Perez de Cuellar, United Nations Secretary General a few months ago. The interview was based on the Secretary General's report on the work of the UN. Mr. Perez talks of the reasons for the ineffectiveness of the World body in this interview:

AG: You express deep personal anxiety at some of the trends which are rendering the organization: Inoperative and ineffective. Has your sense of anxiety about the organization deepened further or have you any reason for optimism?

PdC: Unfortunately there is no significant breakthrough though there are some signs of improvement. At times you get the impression that the dialogue between the two major powers is making some advance but there seems to be no end to this terrible atmosphere of distrust. That is my daily drama. So many of the problems I deal with are transfigured in the context of this tragic distrust between the East and West. Afghanistan, Namibia, Central America, South Asia, the Middle East, and also the economic and social problems, are all planted in that context. There is not much I can do if the international atmosphere of mistrust does not improve.

AG: I don't have to recite to you a list of all the crises in the world. I read about them, you deal with them. But I get the feeling that the UN is getting more and more isolated from world problems. You said, reflecting on the current situations, that we are perilously close to a new international anarchy.

Do you think we are likely to go over the edge?

PdC: I think there is, unfortunately, no sign of any easing of this situation which is very close to anarchy. By anarchy I mean that even when you have an international organization which is supposed to put some order into international relations you decide to ignore it. That is anarchy. In Lebanon we are facing an extremely dangerous problem. Some of the parties to the problem want to avoid any UN involvement. They want only the peacekeeping forces which help them in some way. The only way of finding a solution of the Middle East problem is through UN involvement. The security Council is the appropriate forum to discuss the Middle East problem in which all parties concerned would have their say. We could evolve new procedures, as I said to Mr. Andropov when we discussed the Middle East in Moscow.

AG: What was his response?

PdC: Well, he didn't react one way or another. He reiterated his idea of an international conference to consider the Middle East problem. I told him that I thought an international conference would be very difficult to organize; the venue, the chairmanship, the participants, and the role of the UN would be extremely difficult to decide.

The Security Council offers a better forum. The Israelis have their say, the Palestinians are allowed to state their position and every country which might wish to intervene will be able to do so.... the difficulty is that some of those concerned don't want to have the UN involved in the Middle East problem. They object to the UN presence.

AG: There are problems of vision and statesmanship. Might I talk about a current problem — the convulsion in Central America? I asked Clark Clifford, who was Defence Secretary in the Johnson administration, whether the situation into which the US is being drawn in Central America was in any way similar to the one in Vietnam. His answer was that perhaps the US perception of the communist threat in the two regions was similar. He added that it was

the same time adapt their rules of procedure. Don't forget that they have provisional rules of procedure in the Security Council; they could thereafter decide to set up subcommittees in order to deal with different aspects of a problem, and the council could function in open or closed meetings. They have enough flexibility to adapt their procedures to find a comprehensive solution of the problem. But the difficulty is that some of those concerned don't want to have the UN involved in the Middle East problem. They object to the UN presence.

AG: It has been suggested that we are using outdated concepts and techniques of diplomacy for the resolution of conflict. We employ 19th century techniques to solve current problems. Take Lebanon, Afghanistan or Namibia. How can these problems be solved if the resistance groups



De Cuellar — worried over UN isolation

are excluded from the talks, whether it is the PLO or the Mujahadin?

PdC: I think it is an important point. You had two or three international conferences, the Vienna Congress and the Hague Congress in the 19th century. The 20th century saw the League of Nations and the United Nations. We now have a new form of diplomacy, which we call parliamentary diplomacy or multilateral diplomacy, but still problems are sometimes dealt with according to 19th and 18th century techniques favouring secrecy, and the bilateral approach. We are going back to old forms. The problem is not that we need new diplomatic methods because all methods have been tested. The problem is a lack of political will.

Take the discussions in the Security Council where major powers and other address international problems. Too often they do not put aside their narrow national interests, nor do they think adequately in terms of global interests. That is why I say the approach to international problems is not realistic.

AG: There are problems of vision and statesmanship.

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not the reality of the threat but its perception which was important. The perception might be quite wrong, and he admitted that the US perception of the communist threat in Southeast Asia was wrong. Would you say that the situation in Central America is deteriorating because the US is responding to its own perception of the communist threat in the region?

PdC: I belong to that area and I must say that the problem in Central and South America, from Mexico to Chile, is more or less the same. It is social and economic injustice and inequitable distribution of wealth, and this is at the root of all the difficulties in Guatemala, Chile, in Ecuador or in Peru and El Salvador to name but a few at random. The problem has never been satisfactorily addressed although we have been independent for 150 years, and it is our fault that this is so. The remnants of this social injustice are still there and that is why we have revolutions. I have great respect for all efforts made by different Latin American countries to solve their internal problems. There are leftist governments and rightist governments. They can deal with their problems in their own way but they should not try to export their revolutions or their philosophies. I think the problem we are facing in Central America is that two ideological opposites try to export their approach to problems.

I think it is important that countries respect each others' internal affairs and external forces should not intervene in the solution of the problems of the Latin American area. These two things combined could, I think, help solve the problem.

AG: Another doctrine of spheres of influence has resurfaced in relationship to Chad. President Reagan announced that the French must assume responsibility because Chad was the French sphere of influence. What was even more upsetting for people in the Third World was that a former colonial power was regarded as some kind of a natural power which should intervene in the crisis rather than the UN. How do you react to this reassertion of the sphere of influence doctrine?

PdC: If I were to accept either the expression "superpowers" or "sphere of influence" I had better go home. We cannot accept the concept of superpowers and spheres of influence in the UN. Don't forget that the concept of superpowers in some way contains within it the idea of spheres of influence. I think this is something we, the people of the United Nations, should discard completely from our language. You would rarely hear me saying "superpowers". I prefer to call them major groups of powers or major powers. I hate the idea of superpowers because that is the most negative element, and is exactly the concept that makes things difficult. It is this division, this partition of the world into two kinds of worlds, which makes the solution of the problems so difficult. I thought that we had forgotten about spheres of influence in the beginning of the century, before the First World War. I think it was prob-

able a lapse of language when this expression was used in connection with Chad. If I accepted the notion of spheres of influence, then I must accept that Afghanistan is in the sphere of influence of the Soviet Union and that Central America is in the sphere of influence of the United States. And then we are indeed lost.

AG: I don't think it was a question of a lapse of language. It was a statement of the US position at the highest level.

PdC: I don't know if that was the case. But I cannot accept that position. Why not say Chad is within the sphere of influence of Libya? Libya could claim, as an important African country, that it must have Chad in its sphere of influence. Why should it be in the French sphere? France is far away, and it is a former colonial power. I like to think that it was really a

"If I were to accept either the expression 'superpowers' or 'sphere of influence,' ... then I must accept that Afghanistan is in the sphere of influence of the Soviet Union, that Central America is in the sphere of influence of the US... and say Chad is within the sphere of influence of Libya."

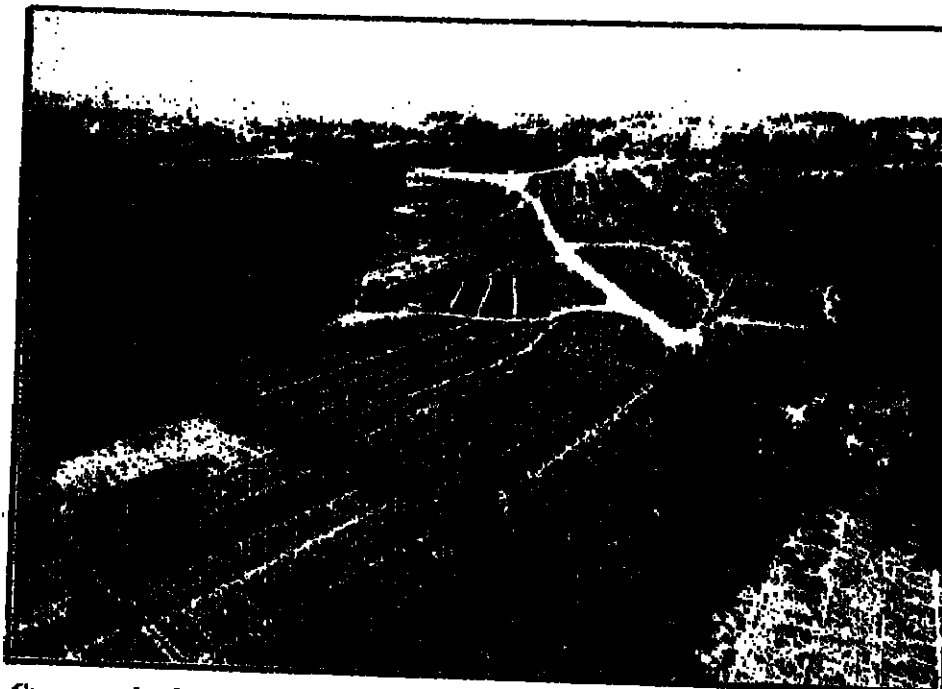
lapse of language. I repeat very emphatically, we cannot accept either the existence of superpowers or the idea of spheres of influence, otherwise this organization will have no justification to exist.

AG: Do you see any progress in the talks on Afghanistan toward the withdrawal of Soviet troops and the creation of conditions which would end the guerrilla war and allow the repatriation of the 4.5 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran?

PdC: On Afghanistan, I think we have to be very patient. It is not an easy problem. I think we are moving in the right direction. We are working on the basis of a comprehensive draft agreement and we are trying to fill up the framework that we have set up. That needs patience. This problem is set in this terrible context of East-West rivalry which doesn't help. I really hope very much that I can do something. The only thing that I can tell you is that both parties, Pakistan and Afghanistan, are interested in the UN resolving this problem. That is enough for me to continue my efforts because if I find a country, for instance Pakistan, coming to us and saying please proceed and then Afghanistan says the same then we keep our efforts. If those two countries trust the UN, how can I tell them that I have had enough of their difficulties. No, on the contrary, I have to encourage countries which really trust the UN and want the UN to help them solve their problems.



Security Council — a forum supposed to resolve problems



Can we make Jordan a green spot once again?

Jordanian pioneering

By Ahmad Al-Anani
Special to the Star

IT is the attitude of men towards challenges; the way they receive them and tackle them that decides their aptitude for success or failure.

To tell the truth, with regard to Jordan this subject has often perplexed me. In some aspects Jordanians display genuine manliness, fortitude and patience. In other fields they behave sluggishly and fail to face up to challenges.

Competing for academic qualification and high degrees everywhere in the world Jordanians win high distinction; but this is by no means matched by the Jordanian attitude to land. Although the cultivation of olive-trees and other trees has shown distinctive progress, the general picture of agriculture is some-how disappointing.

In this connection there are some appalling facts such as continuing migration from rural areas to townships; the attitude of intellectuals as a whole to their village roots, the scarcity of various products and, consequently, the relatively high prices most of the year.

There is no doubt that costs have a lot to say in this matter. Jordanians believe they can turn their hands to more profitable occupations although whether this is really true is anybody's guess. Data has not been established on the income from land (tilled and supervised by enthusiastic and technically qualified young men, in comparison with the income from alternative occupations.

Jordan shall shortly discover that the creation of what could be called "agricultural depth" is as essential for the country as life itself. This stems from many political, social, economical and security reasons.

The potential of the eastern part of the country is to provide for the growing demand of Jordanians for agricultural products, but it is also the source of food security should the Ghor strip be exposed to military operations.

From the political point of view the dense habitation in the Eastern province broadens the basis of stability for the country as a whole. The redistribution of inhabitants would give the country a more balanced situation.

From a social point of view the practice of cramming a great proportion of the population into the Amman-Zarqa line would be avoided, thus producing a better quality of human beings. The economical advantages security advantages are also obvious.

Whether we arrange with our Iraqi brothers for the permanent flow of excessive Euphrates water through pipelines, or we secure by enlightened systems of artisan wells sufficient water resources, we have to develop the high potential of the region.

I consider it a national duty of greatest importance that writers, economists and agricultural activists join hands for the

creation of a real revolution of our agriculture. All of Jordan must look green to prove that we deserve our beautiful country. It is true we will be struggling against the serious problem of water-shortage; but how are we to deserve the honour of the title pioneers without conquering challenges.

Despite its great agricultural potential, all calculations point to the imminent danger of severe food shortage in the Arab world. There is no doubt that a new approach is imperative. It must be carried out on a scientific basis and with a pioneering spirit.

It is interesting to refer to historical references to Jordan as an exemplary place of greenery. On hearing Quranic recitals on Paradise, the then infidel leader Qasbiy asked in wonder: "Is it true Muhammad is promising us gardens like as those of Jordan?" Abu-Sufyan often visited Syria, and, passing through Jordan, he must have admired that lavishly green country.

The last few years, with their prodigious rainfall, do seem to herald an era of exceptional fertility. Underground water resources seem to be more promising than was previously thought.

We have in Jordan a great opportunity to lead the Arab world in the field of food security through local production. We are in a position to accumulate such knowledge and experience as may lead the Arab world to a new era of modern agriculture.

Our countrymen, who created agriculture in Eastern Arabia, must qualify themselves properly for a new stage of achievement.

There could be no truer sign of our maturity and our pioneering spirit than the conversion of Jordan to a green spot worthy of its ancient fame.

France takes refuge in the past

When times are hard, people take an interest in history.

There are several reasons for this phenomenon. One is that the past is less frightening than the future. The past is known, new surprises can come from it. And people like to take a nostalgic look at it.

A second reason is put forward by the sociologists: to look at the past is to try to understand the reasons, the deeper reasons, for past events, those events which have shaken the planet. To be able to reply to these questions is to be able to prepare the future. Finding the key to the past is the next time. For history will set us the same traps time and time again.

In these days of world economic crisis, the past has a pleasant ring about it, particularly in France. Historical essays, biographies of famous personalities and period novels sell like hot cakes.

Are we born cranky?

By Riad H. Dabbas
Special to the Star

AS ANY parent, grandparent, or baby-sitter knows, some babies are adaptable, placid, and regular in their habits, while others are difficult and unpredictable. Differences in temperament show up from the first day of life: some infants sleep very little, others sleep a lot; some infants are highly sensitive and cranky, others are quiet and unresponsive.

Since newborns have not been exposed to the world for long, environmental forces beyond the womb can hardly account for such differences in temperament. Rather, the differences must be largely a result of genetic influences. Yet there have been few, if any, attempts to relate different biological endowments at birth to newborns' behaviour.

Andrew J. Sostek and Richard J. Wyatt — have found in research at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) in the United States that behavioural differences in newborns are associated with an enzyme that circulates in both the blood and the brain, monoamine oxidase (MAO). By comparing the amounts of MAO in the blood of newborns with their performance on behavioural tests, they concluded that those with lower levels of MAO tended to be more excitable and crankier than those with high MAO. The lower-MAO newborns were also more active and performed better on items relating to motor functioning.

Researchers believe that MAO influences behaviour in the brain by breaking down the chemical neurotransmitters that carry messages between neurons. By preventing neurotransmitters from building up, MAO keeps the brain cells that would otherwise be activated. Low levels of MAO thus mean more activity — higher arousal — in the brain.

Adult similarities

Some of their colleagues at NIMH had already found a connection between levels of MAO and adult behaviour. Dennis Murphy and his associates had found that many schizophrenics and depressives had lower-than-normal amounts of MAO in their blood. In a study of normal adults, Monte Buchsbaum and his associates uncovered an association between low MAO and a variety of distinctive personality traits, including gregariousness, a tendency to drink and experiment with drugs, an active, varied sex life, and a preference for activities such as motorcycling.

Was MAO present in the blood of infants in the same relative amounts, and could it similarly influence their behaviour? To find out they first examined the blood of 23 newborns. Soon after birth the blood is routinely taken from the part of the infant's umbilical cord that is attached to the placenta to determine blood type.



They received permission to analyse the remaining foetal blood.

They found approximately the same variation in the range of MAO levels among their 23 infants as among the 680 adults examined in previous studies. The MAO levels were also, similar regardless of the type of delivery, race, gender, birth weight, or medication given the mother during delivery.

Previous research has shown that the levels of MAO found in the blood of different people follow genetic laws for example, identical (same-egg) twins have very similar amounts and people in the same family generally have quite similar amounts. Thus, they assume that the MAO levels found in the blood at birth are biologically fixed.

To measure behavioural differences among their sample, they gave the Neonatal Behaviour Assessment Scale (NBAS) to the 23 infants on their second day of life. The NBAS assesses infants' reactions to a range of sights and sounds and provides an evaluation of their motor functioning and arousal patterns. In one group of the items, for example, the examiner rings a bell, shakes a rattle, and shines a flashlight at sleeping newborn to assess their ability to screen out stimuli; infants who wake easily or cannot stop responding to either more arousable or have less efficient information-processing skill.

To see how MAO related to the infant NBAS scores, they compared the infants who had the most MAO to those with the least MAO. The most notable difference was in arousability. During the 30 minutes of testing, low-MAO newborns were much more active and easily aroused; they cried more often, took longer to settle, and required more holding and rocking to quiet down. They also displayed better muscular coordination.

Their research shows that one enzyme in the blood and brain seems tied to individual differences among newborns. They don't know whether other, brain chemicals — such as the endorphins — are also present in sufficient quantities at birth and also influence infant behaviour. It is also an open question whether these biological predispositions are constant throughout the life span.

read old newspapers is better than a time machine; it takes us "away from ourselves" and informs us at the same time.

In the "Paris Match" of September 14, 1939, for instance, we find the first pictures of the Second World War: photos of Polish brigades, on horseback, crushed by Hitler's tanks; the first evacuation of women and children from the French capital; daily life in a holiday camp; illustrated advice about what to do or not to do in the event of an alert; an unpublished novel by Colette; caricatures; and so on.

Thanks to these facsimiles, history can be enjoyed by all. The past joins up with the present. And let's hope that these yellowed pages of these old newspapers will teach us something more than the bare events and give us matter for contemporary reflection.

Radio France International

13 October 1983



"Bedlam" according to William Hogarth

Hogarth and Hockney on road to Bedlam

By Vanessa Batrouni
Special to the Star

WILLIAM HOGARTH (1697-1764) was born into the later half of the restoration—an age of decadence, corruption and folly. David Hockney (1937-) into an age of materialism in the twentieth century. The British Council have brought the two together in an exhibition now showing at the Royal Cultural Centre, each reflecting his age and its vices under the binding theme of A Rake's Progress.

Hogarth, an untrained artist rose to fame and fortune after moving away from early conversation pieces into an unexplored area of art unparalleled in its history.

He introduced the modern moral subject into painting or "novels in paint" which he strove to seminate through all classes of society appealing to both hedonist and clergyman. Following the lucrative success of "The Harlot's Progress" he chose to consolidate his schemata and style in "The Rake's Progress" that traces a spendthrift's unfortunate life from inheritance to madness.

David Hockney picks up Hogarth's theme of the corruption of money and translates it into a modern idiom. But whereas Hogarth's hero is responsible for his own moral decline, Hockney transcribes those corrupting powers to a society in which his hero is victimised. Whereas Hogarth takes us on a journey of the soul towards dissolution, Hockney takes us on a physical journey to a land which serves as a continent of the mind as well as a continent of actuality.

Theatre echoes

William Hogarth's early success with a painted scene taken from the popular Beggar's Opera prompted him to use tableaux of contemporary scenes to satirise men and his foolish ways. The force of the theatre echoes throughout Hogarth's progress, in his groupings and in his frozen dramatic gestures and situations.

Scene changes, confrontations, the juxtaposition of humour and horror, comedy and tragedy, all these theatrical elements combine to form the plot. He sees his fellow-men as actors dressed for a genteel comedy, and portrays them as stock characters well known in the plays of the era. As a student of human comedy he was acclaimed as second only Shakespeare, the literary companion underlining the power of his pictorial narratives.

Hogarth fills his scenes with elaborate detail, inanimate objects being as significant as bodily gestures and facial expressions in conveying the action.

In the first tableau "Young Heir Taking Possession" the rejection of the faithful Sarah Young is shown by the discarded wedding ring she holds as her lover is measured up for his new role by a tailor;

and background business, a portrait and a hoard of gold reveal that the dead father was a miser. These painted "asides" not only give additional information but serve as omens and symbols of corruption and decline.

Disintegration

In the Tavern Scene the young man's moral disintegration is confirmed by the shattered glass, the defaced portraits, the disordered chamberpot and general disorder. It is saying that the rakes seduction by the ephemeral culture of the aristocracy and with its empty meaningless pursuits is complete. His low-status mentality striving always to reach to where it doesn't belong soon leads him into the abyssal, into a marriage for money with an ugly one eyed hunchback, into gambling, debts, prison and finally madness.

Camera's eye

Hockney, on the other hand doesn't see his rake through the proscenium arch but through the eye of a camera, almost as a tourist, who after receiving his inheritance visits the sights and monuments of modern America and American society.

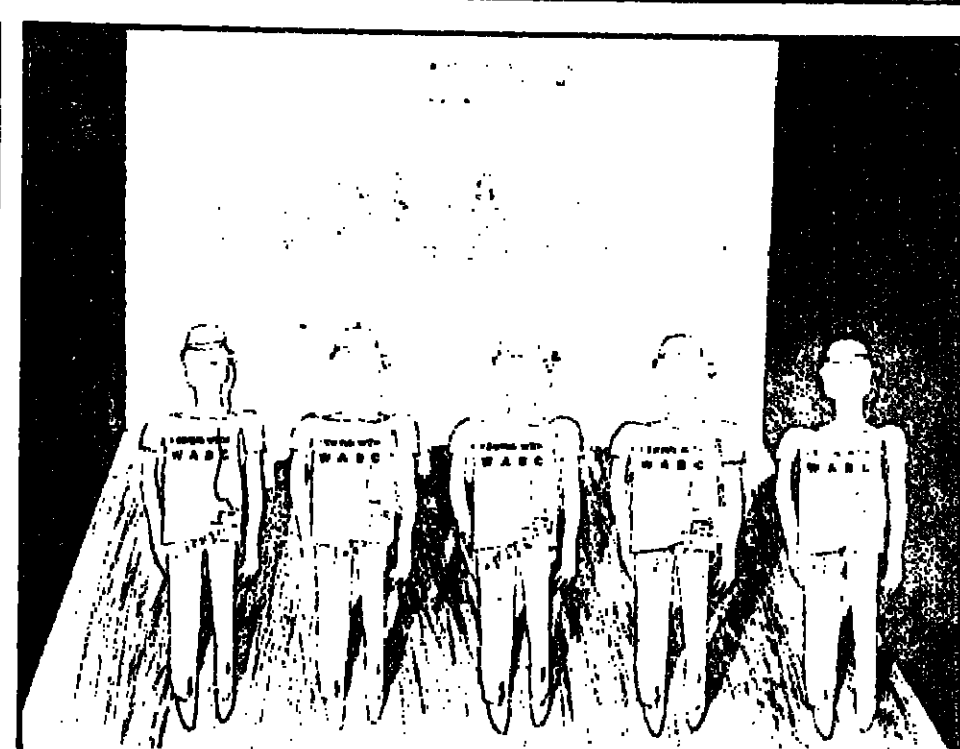
Hockney's hero is a blown figure of uncertain lines, feeble and submissive, ill equipped to meet social standards, a "seven stone weakling" in a land that worships the beautiful body, where a blonde is not seen as an actual person but as a doorway to paradise.

Hogarth is said to have memorised scenes and characters in a linear shorthand and here Hockney uses such a shorthand to relate his tale. Figurative and architectural precision are abandoned, the unsteady lines expressing equally well the ephemeral and the illusory, whilst telling of as loosening stances of vice and virtue in sharp contrast to the clearcut morality of Hogarth's world and its system of punishment and reward.

Hockney, like Hogarth, uses scenes to make political and social comments but usually with a single metaphor. Hogarth cannot resist pointing out the hypocrisy and lack of charity in religious institutions by the decaying walls and cobwebbed porch in "He Marries" and in the final Bedlam tableau ridicules the supposed pillars of society, the bishop, the writer, the nobleman portraying them as unclothed madmen.

Hockney chooses the election campaign where the campaigners actual unspoken message is captioned in an empty thought bubble. Hockney's wit and symbolism is reduced to the minimal but the smallest satirical comment can punch as powerfully. The lawyer in the "Inheritance" has laid his glasses aside so as not to read the inherited amount correctly, exposing the avarice of his profession in the face of the innocent.

Hogarth's rake is outside his class, but Hockney's is a real outsider, a foreigner



The David Hockney version

who via money also treads a path of alienation. The good people he meets in "Meeting Good People" cannot act as moral guides. Cast in stone they can only be observed never experienced. The Gospelsingers who come closest to Hogarth's Sarah Young as a symbol of purity and goodness are outcasts too but being at the heavenly stateline, which he is very much below, are beyond reach.

Moral signals are displaced in the land he travels, the whorehouse is a homosexual bar, a marriage between a male and transvestite and, of course, he finds himself wandering. His loss of wholeness is expressed in his incomplete body, he is a half human being and finally a head until "Death in Harlem" heralds his total dis-

integration. He is kicked out, money exhausted, into the jaws of a waiting monster whose skin sports many serpentine curves. Hockney's little joke on Hogarth who considered the serpentine curve as the line of beauty and employed it in many forms in his pictures.

Although Hockney adheres to Hogarth's outline and satirised equivalents abound, attitudes diverge in Bedlam the denouncement of both moral cycles. Hogarth's rake meets his just end in the famous madhouse, the loss of sanity being the ultimate punishment; but to Hockney his hero's salvation lies in the madness of the norm, in the zombified tuned in mass. His rake re-integrates by submerging himself into the alternative cult and tuning into the noise of the universe.



Elaine McDonald of the Scottish Ballet

Kilts will not be worn!

The Scottish Ballet is due in Amman this week for a series of performances. But, contrary to popular opinion, when they take the stage at the Royal Cultural Centre on 17 October there won't be even a touch of tartan in sight. Instead, ballet lovers will be able to enjoy a programme of four classical and modern ballet works which show the full range of talent of the 26 member company.

THE JERUSALEM STAR 21

education

Conferences focus on language teaching

By Fadla Faqr
Special to the Star

A conference on English for specific purposes in the Arab world was held from 7-20 August at the University of Aston in Birmingham, United Kingdom. Its purpose was to review and investigate developments in English language teaching in Arabic speaking countries in the past five years, and to emphasize the use of English as an "access" language to science and technology as well as to international business and commerce.

JORDAN was represented at the conference by Mr. Turki Al-Diab, a member of the University of Jordan Language Centre (UJLC) who has just completed an MSc. programme at Aston University in specific purpose English teaching, and Mr. Antony Croker, adviser in English at the University of Jordan Language Centre (UJLC). Mr. Croker was academic director of the conference and gave three presentations based on work done at the

2) English for Vocational purposes (language for training and for business) — with presentations from banks, technical schools, military training institutions, private language schools and private companies," he said.

Purpose — specific

"The main model of foreign language teaching in universities in most Arabic-speaking countries and in many commercial/industrial training programmes is purpose-specific rather than 'general'. The amount of experience throughout the Arab speaking region in the teaching of English for highly specific purposes, dating from the early 60's to now is vast. Much of this experience is 'common' to different countries in terms of problems encountered and solutions arrived at, but unfortunately, the flow of information between the Arab countries is not rapid, despite the efforts made by several institutions with publications like ESPMENA (English for Specific Purposes in the Middle East and North Africa), published in Sudan.

"Despite the twenty years of extremely useful work in 'specific purpose' language teaching throughout the Arab region it is, of course, still possible to question its overall value. After all, does not 'specific' really mean 'special' and is not something 'special', by its very nature, out of the ordinary? Is not this work therefore missing the wood for the trees, by concentrating on small problems when there are larger ones to be faced?

In foreign language classes in schools, for example, not only in Jordan, but not only in the Arab region, but throughout the world, classes are often so large that it seems impossible to give each student the amount of practice he or she might need in speaking or in writing. The learning facilities available in a university or a company are often way in excess of what is available in the average school classroom. School time is always severely limited and both students and teachers are under pressure to complete a pre-set syllabus in order to take public examinations.

Minority groups

Should not the specialists then be pondering these problems rather than concentrating on what is, after all, only a small minority of the language learning population. And indeed, few of such specialists would deny that up to now the emphasis has been upon a rather specialised learner, the university student needing access to foreign language textbooks or the company employee needing to handle foreign visitors. Moreover, the "specific purpose" approach is only one approach, it is one of many possibilities and not the one and only road to success. But, this does not mean that there are not lessons to be learnt or advantages to be gained at a more general level if one wishes to look for them," he said.

"The very limitation of the learning group can in itself be seen as a virtue, since it ensures that limited resources are directed to where they are most needed, that is to learners who have a real need to use a foreign language.

But, beyond that the whole concept of an explicitly defined purpose can be of value to all language teachers to help them think outside of their own knowledge of grammar and vocabulary and into the whole area of the uses that different learners might want to make of the language. This in turn can help the teacher work out his or her own methodology, for it is as much a matter of common sense as of anything else that the best way to learn a skill is to practice it, that listening or reading are not necessarily the best ways of becoming proficient in speaking, or that we do not read a novel or story in the

same way that we study a textbook; letters to our friends are not the same as letters of business. Although some of the same knowledge and skills are involved in these different activities it would seem most efficient, especially with limited resources, to practice the required skills directly rather than to hope that they will transfer across different areas by some process of osmosis.

In fact the focus upon use that has grown up around the specific purpose approach to language teaching has yielded some very interesting insights into the differences, even at a grammatical level, between the different language-using skills.

This realization of difference is also very salutary when applied to the concept of learning rather than to that of language, for it is very easy to forget, in a class of forty students, that they are a class of forty individuals, each with a slightly different way of approaching the task of learning. It is this difference which can

help solve the problem of sufficient practice, because, of course, it is always possible to group together in the same class students with similar ability or with a similar approach to a problem, so that practice can take place at different levels within a single room.

Finally it is worth bearing in mind how the whole concept of specific purpose teaching came into being. Basically, it was an attempt to involve the learner by providing material relevant to his or her need or interest, in the well-founded belief that we learn best what we like best.

It is not always possible to meet everyone's interest in a school classroom, but it is useful to be reminded that the teacher's responsibility to try to ensure that his or her subject becomes one of the student's interests — by being made interesting. For no matter how much teaching takes place, learning can only take place with the full participation and co-operation of the student," Mr. Croker added.

Understanding foreign worlds

Special to the Star

Jordan was also represented at a recent conference on language teaching held in Germany. The conference, on teaching German as a foreign language at universities abroad, was held at the University of Kassel and brought together Germans who are teaching their language at foreign universities.

JORDAN'S representative was Dr. Norbert Heinze, assistant professor at the University of Jordan. Dr. Heinze, a former teacher at the University of Cologne, is in Jordan under the auspices of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). He teaches German Language and Literature and is responsible for scholarships and for academic exchanges between Jordan and Germany.

At the conference in Kassel he gave a lecture entitled "Understanding or designing foreign worlds; a condition for teaching German as a foreign language."

Dr. Heinze says that teaching abroad is very different from teaching foreign students in Germany, in a German environment. He says, "If you want to teach Jordanian students you must have some idea about their ways of studying and living. You must know about their value systems. What do they consider important and what they consider less important?"

"You will realize very quickly that you live in a completely different cultural environment."

He continues, "How can you find out about the different values and the different ways of thinking, when you do not have a reliable standard or a solid basis on which to build your opinion. You build up hypotheses and for quite a while you may live comfortably with them until you realize that you must be completely wrong. Everybody lives in his own world. It is impossible to describe or discover the real world, this goes back to a long tradition of thinking. What is fascinating now is that the influence of the real world is shown when you fall in your design or methodology concerning foreign students."

Dr. Heinze says he has found the great importance of family life and the sophisticated ways of communication within the world of men in Jordan very different from his German way of living. "I have the feeling that this puts much more strain on Arab than on German men, as the ways of greeting, gestures, glances and speaking express not only friendliness, but also the social position somebody claims, defends or demonstrates," he commented.

On the other hand, Dr. Heinze says, "Germany is a highly developed country, but still we have a lot of problems. There is for instance much discussion now about the following alternatives: increase of industry production and decrease of the unemployment rate or anti-pollution programmes and preservation of nature, cruise missiles or peace



Dr. Norbert Heinze

movement, nuclear energy with all the dangers or energy crisis. We have typical either-or alternatives and each one seems to be wrong or at least dissatisfying. Somebody who has lived in Jordan knows that this is not the Jordanian approach. That there are not only black and white, yes or no, either-or alternatives here," Dr. Heinze says "it is most difficult. Dr. Heinze says "it is most difficult. The most interesting to follow the hermeneutic process of discovering foreign value systems and categories of thinking for DAAD, and why I rely on the effectiveness of academic exchange."

Dr. Heinze says he hopes that expatriates who have lived in close contact with counterparts — not on a privileged German island — and who have experienced different ways of life, of values, of fenced different ways of life, of developed thinking will bring back a more developed competence to suggest new solutions to our home made problems.

And, on the reverse side, he says "I suppose many Jordanians have come to my country will have gone through the same experience. The cultural differences are extremely important for people living abroad, much more than money or housing, but this is often not seen clearly enough. I hope, actually I am sure, that Jordanian graduates and professors can bring back a competence from Germany that may serve Jordan," he said.

Dr. Heinze, who has already published eight books in the field of German language and literature, is now preparing, with two colleagues from Cairo and Oren, Algeria, a workbook for teaching German literature at universities abroad. He says they will rely on their experiences at universities abroad.

A woman of ambition makes her own mark

By Sireen Rifai
Special to the Star

DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES find their way into the hearts of women and with will and ambition all obstacles to success in these activities can be overcome.

This is the philosophy of Mrs. Nabila Al-Hasan, founder and vice-president of the Circassian Charity Organization (Women's section) and one of Jordan's most active women.

When she was living in Jerusalem in 1939 Mrs. Al-Hasan pledged herself to work in the field of voluntary activity. At that time most women seldom worked outside the house but Mrs. Al-Hasan set out to introduce herself to the world of charity and welfare work.

Later she moved to Amman and, in 1971, she founded the women's section of the Circassian Charity Organization. (The organization has been headed by Her Highness Princess Alia since 1978) Mrs. Al-Hasan talked to the Star about the activities of the association in Amman.

She said the earliest aim of the association was to help women to raise the standard of living of their families through teaching them new skills, for example sewing classes were offered for girls.

In the early days they faced many difficulties. Only a few

women joined so funds were limited. The association did not have its own office from which to operate and meetings had to take place at the members' houses.

Members paid half a dinar per meeting, this was later raised to one dinar but even then, supplemented by lotteries and a sewing centre, it hardly covered their basic expenses.

The organization has always paid great attention to education. In 1974 they opened a kindergarten and a school with three elementary classes in a small rented building in Jabal Amman.

Later His Majesty King Hussein offered them one and a quarter hectares of land at Marj Al-Hamam to build a complete secondary school.

The association has already finished the first and second phases of the school, the elementary and preparatory classes, and hopes to finish the third as soon as possible.

At the school the Circassian language is a compulsory subject for all Circassian students and is optional for Arab students. The children are also taught to perform traditional Circassian dances and these are presented on special occasions to parents and invited Circassian groups.

As the organization has grown it has been able to expand its so-



Mrs. Nabila Al-Hasan

cial and cultural activities. On Thursdays the ladies hold Circassian parties. Their aim is to keep the older and younger generations in touch. They can wear their traditional costumes and dance together to the typical accords rhythms of Circassian music. Traditional food, such as "Ships wa Basta" and "Haliva" are served on these occasions.

Mrs. Al-Hasan has achieved considerable success in her aim to serve her community but her work has not ended. Her next project is to establish an orphanage — and there seems little doubt that this determined woman will achieve her aim.



Princess Alia prepares to lay the school foundation stone



Circassian parties help to bring the generations together

Chicken breasts in green sauce

Ingredients

- 2 onions
- 2 carrots
- 2 leeks
- 8 chicken breasts
- 1/2 cup parsley
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 10 black peppercorns
- 1/2 kilo noodles
- 100 grammes butter
- 100 grammes grated cheese
- Green Sauce
- 250 grammes spinach
- 75 grammes butter
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 1/2 litre milk
- 2 tablespoons parsley
- 1 teaspoon dried tarragon
- salt and pepper

Method

- Put the chicken breasts in a large pan with the chopped onions, carrots, leeks, parsley, bay leaf and pepper corns
- Cover with cold water, bring to the boil and then simmer for thirty-five minutes
- When tender lift out the chicken breasts and skin and bone them
- Strain the stock and keep 1/4 litre
- Cook the noodles
- Boil the spinach for four minutes
- Drain and then puree
- Melt the butter, add the flour and gradually add the stock
- Add the milk and simmer for three minutes, cool
- Mix this in the blender with the spinach and herbs
- Put the noodles into a buttered casserole
- Dot with butter, place the chicken pieces on the noodles and pour the sauce over all
- Sprinkle with cheese and bake at 350 for 20 minutes

All Things Considered

Joyce Abu Jassar

Hospital visits

I hope that none of my readers has to go to hospital to visit or be visited by anyone dear to them, but these occasions do arise. Hospital visits are universal, however the way in which they are conducted varies greatly from country to country.

In the west the doctors and nurses are in control of the situation. Visiting hours in hospitals are strictly regulated. When the sign says "From 10 am to 12 am" that is exactly what it means. If you stay until five minutes after noon you will soon be confronted by persons in starched uniforms with equally stiff faces and stern glances in their eyes. They bustle about the room. They make the visitor feel unwanted. The visitor leaves.

In the evenings a gong is rung that signals end of the allowed time. If you don't rise immediately from your chair and head for the nearest exit you might find yourself stumbling down a dark hallway, groping for the elevator door because those who run the hospital have switched off the lights.

Patients are only allowed two visitors at a time. Your party is counted and watchful eyes make certain that friends and relatives enter the sickroom in pairs, and leave before the next couple has their turn. You can bring a bunch of grapes, a box of candy or bouquet of flowers with you for the infirmed.

Things don't run that way here. Ten am doesn't mean 10 am. It means sometime in the morning, after you have finished the housework. If you are one of those persons who rise with the sun then you can be through your tasks by 7.30 and if there is someone in the house to see to lunch then your visiting party can be on its way by eight.

Anyone who is sick in hospital needs to be cheered up and the more visitors the patient has the more he will be cheered, hence the faster his recovery. So it is a social obligation for ALL the friends and relatives to do their bit, daily.

Of course a visitor can't go empty-handed. So you bring a box of candy, bouquet of flowers, or bunch of grapes — with a bag of apples, oranges, bananas and some dessert plates and fruit knives to serve it with. Since there will probably be a lot of people there someone brings a picnic jug filled with tea, and glasses, and a thermos of Arabic coffee with some cups. And some nuts and watermelon seeds and cigarettes. And a box of sesame biscuits and some baklava.

Anyone who has been stricken down by illness or injury needs the proper nourishment so that he can recover. Hospital food isn't enough. His dearly-loved bring pots of kubbeh, rolled grape leaves, stuffed squash, tabouleh — a little more than the patient needs because he couldn't eat in front of his guests and not offer them any, could he?

But these visits do occasionally get interrupted. There was the time that the doctor and two nurses came into one of these rooms to administer medications to the patient. There were people sitting on chairs, people sitting on the bed, people standing along the walls and by the windows. In spite of the cigarette smoke they pushed forward into the crowd.

The doctor began to ask why there were so many in the room when he was stopped by an old man who queried, "Aren't you the son of Mr. Such-and-so, my old classmate in school?" How could he be stern, authoritative and strict with an old friend of his father's? So he proceeded to the next question, "Where is the patient?" The visitors stopped their conversations. "Who?" they asked.

Everyone looked to his right and left, in front and behind him. No patient. Someone checked the bathroom. He wasn't there either. Some of the visitors were sent out to search. In only a quarter of an hour the patient was located. He was on the next floor down visiting an old school friend of his who was a patient there.

Would you believe it?

CUSTOMERS in a barbers shop in California hang upside down so that they can get a better haircut.

They are first strapped to a stretcher-like contraption, then swung around with their feet high up in the air and their head facing the ground.

The stylist, who invented the method, says that because the hair hangs loose he can cut the hair more evenly.

Customers, have to sign a declaration absolving the stylist of any responsibility. Some have complained of blood rushing to the head and an initial feeling of discomfort.

LEARNER DRIVER Lillian Martin, 72, out for a lesson in her new car, shot across a road junction, demolished a garden wall and fractured a gas main.

Firemen evacuated families in Bristol's Coalpit Heath district while an emergency gas crew dealt with the escape.

Lillian, who has been trying to pass her British driving test for 17 years, said: "I don't know why they made such a fuss."



Queen Zina and Princess Basma discuss a possible purchase with Ambassador of the Philippines Cesar Pastores

Bazaar enjoys brisk business

The bazaar held at Al Hussein Sports City this week in aid of the Mubarrat Um Al Hussein (Um Al Hussein Orphanage) went with a great swing.

As soon as the bazaar was officially opened by Her Majesty the Queen Mother Zina Al Sharaf brisk trading started and the beautiful handwork on sale soon disappeared.

The stalls at the bazaar were manned by the ladies of Amman's diplomatic missions who had taken great trouble to bring characteristic products of their home countries for sale.

Sharifah Fatimah Nasser, president of the Mubarrat, said proceeds from the bazaar will be used to improve services and buildings at the orphanage which is home to 200 boys.

Artur and Heidi Brunner of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany marked their leaving of Amman with a cocktail party last Tuesday. German Ambassador Hermann Manz and Mrs Manz were there, together with Mr and Mrs Otto Richter of Lohmann's, Ingelore and Gerd Forch, Jörn Gerslov and Wlad Qusus.

The Brunners are off to a new posting in Jeddah but they are taking rather a roundabout way. They will go first to Germany for a holiday, then buy a car and drive back through Italy, cross by boat to Alexandria, drive to Suez, and finally, cross to Jeddah. And they will be travelling again at Christmas when they are planning to return to Amman for a visit.

The Far East Commercial Office of the Republic of China (Taiwan) celebrated the Double Tenth Festival of the Republic of China with a reception hosted by Office Director Edmund Liu and Mrs. Liu at the Holiday Inn Ballroom last Monday. And what is the Double Tenth Festival? Actually, it is the Republic's national day which falls on the tenth day of the tenth month.

The guests clustered around the delicious hors d'oeuvres and pastries, and the display of Chinese books and publications received its share of attention by the Chinese as well as the non-Chinese guests, who included Minister of Awqaf Kamel Al-Sharif, General Secretary of the Chambers of Commerce Amin Al Hussaini, Major General Bassam Kakish of the Royal Jordanian Army, Mr. and Mrs. Ra'ouf Abu Jabar, historian Suleiman Al-Musa and musician Kareem Bawwab.

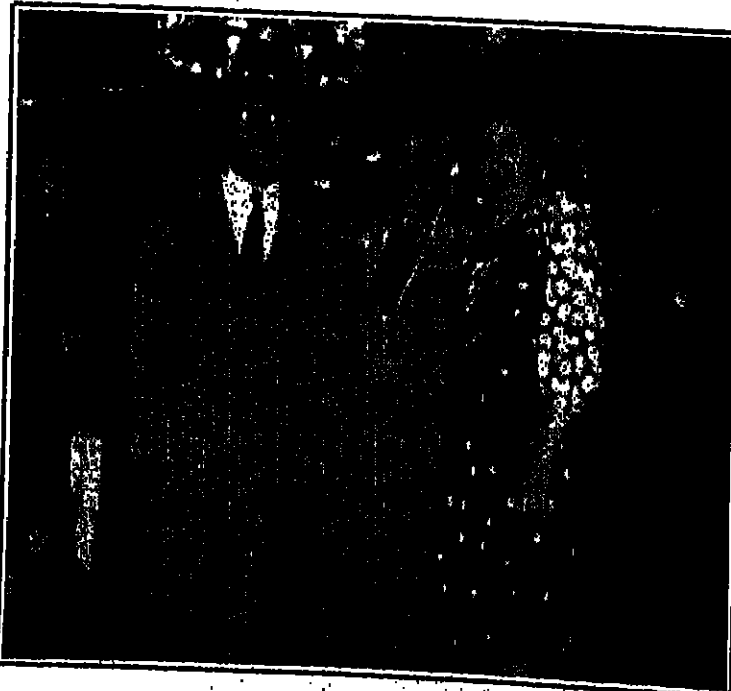
Mr. Chang, the Cultural Attache at the Far East Commercial Office, had a busy time introducing the many guests to each other. And were Hussein Liq, Director manager of Mandarin

On Tuesday, guests at Ziad and Fatima Mango's dinner party were treated to a table groaning with tasty Moroccan and Filipino and Arab dishes.

Guests included Mr and Mrs. Zaid Rifa'i, Mr and Mrs Adnan Talhout and Mrs Hind Nasser.

New Spanish Ambassador to Jordan, Menendez del Valle and his wife Marisa were also there. They have been in Jordan for only five weeks and one week respectively but say they are already fascinated by the country, and especially by the 4.15 am arrival of the birds in their garden every morning.

British Ambassador Alan Urwick and Mrs. Urwick were at the



Mr Edmund Liu with guests Pat Woerz and Jacqueline Rifa'i

Chinese Restaurant and Mrs. Ely Chang of Restaurant Taiwan Tourism swapping recipes? or was Mrs. Chang inviting Mr. Liu to join her in her forthcoming course in Chinese cooking?

CALENDAR

Ballet

The British Council presents The Scottish Ballet Monday 17 October to Sunday 22 October at 8.00 pm at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Exhibitions

The Goethe Institute, in co-operation with the Department of Physics at the University of Jordan, presents Max Born, James Franck, Physicists in their time and age.

Continues until 22 October, at the University of Jordan

The Amra Hotel presents an exhibition of photographs by Captain Areslan Ramadan (ret'd) entitled 'The Jordanian Desert'

Saturday 15 October until Saturday 22 October.

The British Council presents 'The Rakes Progress' an exhibition of prints by Hogarth and Hockney

Continues at the Royal Cultural Centre until Saturday 22 October.

The French Cultural Centre presents an exhibition of paintings by Omar Shahwan

Tuesday 18 October until Monday 24 October.

Concerts

The Jordanian Musicians League, in co-operation with the Department of Culture and Arts, presents an 'Educational Musical Week' consisting of lectures and musical performances.

Saturday 15 October until Thursday 20 October at 6.00 pm at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Lectures

The Goethe Institute presents a lecture with colour slides by Prof. Dr. Herbert Donner, president of the German Palestine Exploration Society, 'Biblical Sites in Palestine, Their Veneration and Their Investigation.'

Saturday 15 October at 8 pm.

The American Centre of Oriental Research presents a series of lectures by Dr. Prescott Williams, 'An Archaeological Portrait of Babylon in the 6th Century BC: Humans, Deities, and their relationships.'

Mondays and Wednesdays at 6.30 pm.

Series begins Monday 17 October, for further information contact ACOR, 814917

Films

The American Centre presents 'Silent Movie' (1 1/2 hrs) starring Mel Brooks, Marty Feldman and Dom DeLuise.

Sunday 16 October at 8.00 pm

Thursday 20 October at 8.00 pm

The Goethe Institute presents 'F.P.I. Antwortet Nicht' a 1932 film starring Sybille Schmitz, Paul Hartmann, Peter Lorre, Hermann Speelmanns and Paul Westermeier.

Wednesday 19 October at 8.00 pm.

The French Cultural Centre presents 'Voyage en Grande Tartarie' a 1973 film starring Jean-Luc Bideau, Micheline Lanctot, and Lou Castel.

Friday 14, Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 October at 7.30 pm.

The Centre Audiovisuel Regional (Tel. 43319) presents 'Les Grandes Manoeuvres' a 1955 Rene Clair film starring Gerard Philippe and Michele Morgan.

Thursday 13 October at 8.30 pm.

'Le Silence est D'or' a 1947 Rene Clair film starring Maurice Chevalier, Marcelle Derrien, Francois Perrier and Dany Robin.

Monday 17 October at 8.30 pm.

The Cinema Club presents regular film screenings at the Royal Cultural Centre on Monday evening. Contact the RCC for further information.

Field trip

The Friends of Archaeology are organising a field trip to the Roman site of Qwelbeh, near Irbid. Transport by bus is available at JD 2 per seat. Call 673489 for reservations

Meet at the Department of Antiquities Registration Centre.

Friday, 14 October at 8.30 am.

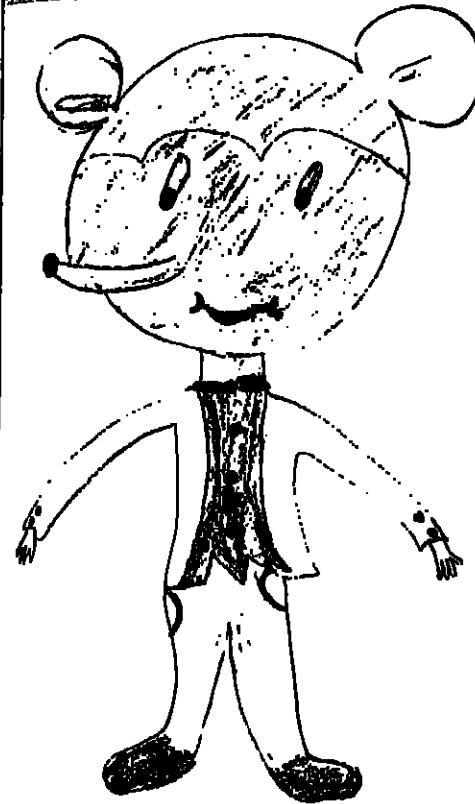
Chess championship

The Jordan Chess Federation is opening the chess season with a championship at the Amra Hotel this week.

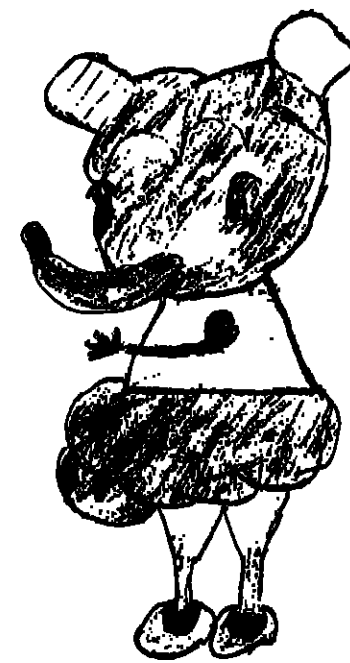
Saturday 15 October from 3.30 pm to 9.00 pm.

Observers are welcome.

PICTURE POINT



Rima Abu Freiha and Haifa Z'atleh sent these two nice sketches. Rima and Haifa attend Al-Juwalidah Government School



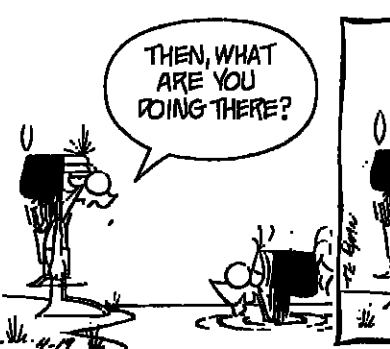
WOOPSY

by Roger Malt Oney



TUMBLEWEEDS

by TOM K. RYAN



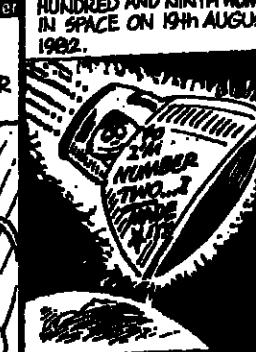
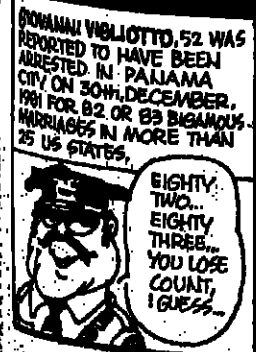
BENJI

by Wright and Camp

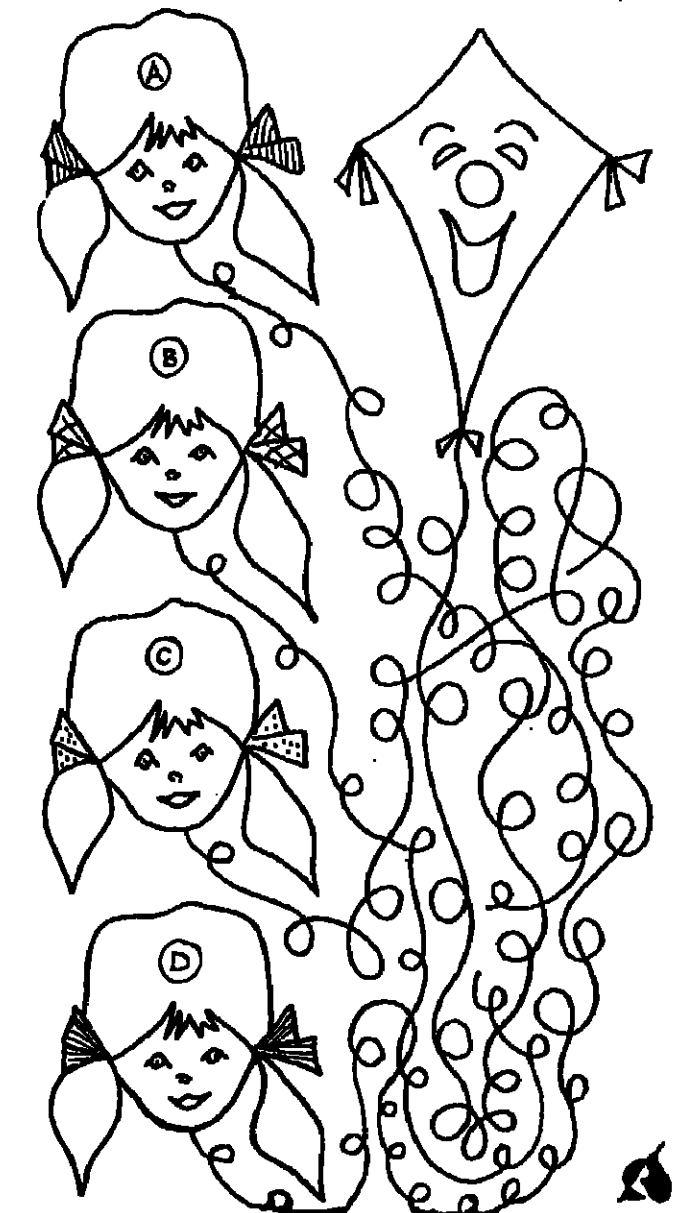


It's a record

From the Guinness Book of Records compiled by Norris McWhirter



WHICH GIRL IS FLYING THE KITE?



Spot the changes



1. A hand has washed from front back to top right hand corner
2. There is a leopard skin head around the cat
3. The cat has black stripes
4. The cat has black stripes
5. The cat has black stripes
6. The cat has black stripes
7. The cat has black stripes
8. The cat has black stripes
9. The cat has black stripes
10. The cat has black stripes



Ramtha's goalkeeper Ghazi Al-Yasin makes a save while a Southampton attacker (middle) and a Ramtha defender (right) close in.

Ramtha, Southampton draw in a friendly match

By Hamdan Al-Haj
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN (Star) — Ramtha football club Monday night played a determined game and held out English first division club Southampton to a goalless draw.

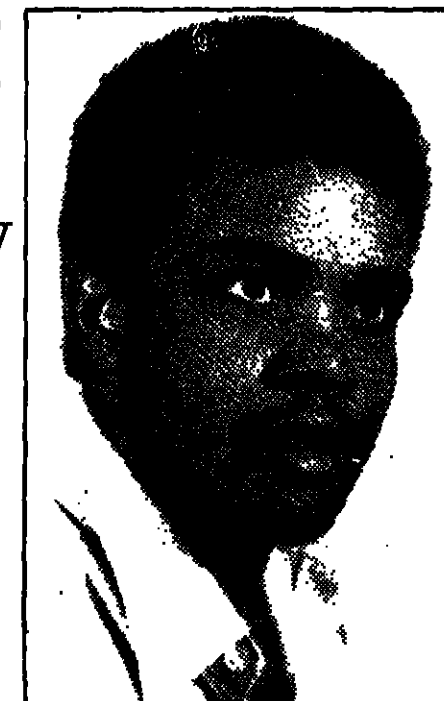
Both teams adopted different patterns of play — Ramtha played the 4-4-2 style, while Southampton took the 4-3-3. Ramtha controlled most part of the first half as Southampton played a relaxed game and seemed to be studying the style of play of their opponents.

Many scoring chances were wasted in this half as players of both teams shot

wide at goal. Ramtha earned two corner kicks but wasted all of them. Southampton also wasted one corner kick.

The tempo of the game did not change much in the second half. There were attacks and counter attacks from both sides each trying to take the lead. Southampton used their professional experience to confuse Ramtha. But the local boys defended stubbornly and thwarted all efforts by the visitors, much to the delight of the thousands of spectators who cheered wildly.

Southampton lost 2-1 to Kuwait in a match played in Bahrain on Sunday. The team has since flown home.



Ahmed Surrur

Boxer retires

AMMAN (Star) — The middle weight boxing champion of Jordan Ahmed Surrur has retired. Surrur 27, will however continue to train boxers of the Marks Club. Giving reasons for his decision, Surrur said he retired as a result of lack of fights.

In an interview with The Star, Surrur said the standard of boxing in Jordan is falling lower and lower because of improper management. He reiterated his appeal to the Jordan Boxing Federation to show more enthusiasm in boxing because as he put it "there are great boxing talents in Jordan".

Surrur started his boxing career in 1969 and represented Jordan in many international tournaments.

Fun And Fitness

HIGH BLOOD pressure or hypertension is one of the cardiovascular disease risk factors that can definitely be reversed. The question becomes, how do you develop and maintain normal blood pressure.

The most important point is to stay as lean as possible. If you have any fat deposits around your waist you can probably decrease your pressure regardless of its level if you get rid of the fat. The other important point is to restrict or eliminate your salt intake.

There are people, of course, who have seriously elevated blood pressure which requires treatment. Many people with so called normal blood pressure probably could improve their longevity and be in optimal health if they follow a lifestyle that keeps them lean and if they avoid the salt shaker.

The protection against fatty cholesterol deposits associated with low blood pressure suggest that the lower your pressure is — as long as it is not affecting your health or represents a reaction to disease — the less likely you are to develop circulatory diseases and premature aging because of fatty cholesterol deposits.

Whatever the cause, elevated blood pressure is something to be taken seriously. Elevated blood pressure means that your heart has to pump harder to maintain normal blood circulation. In addition to increasing your risk of cardiovascular disease, elevated blood pressure contributes to a variety of other problems including stroke and kidney disease.

High blood pressure can often be lowered through lifestyle change. These changes are important whether or not you are also taking medication. They include:

- Reducing your intake of salt. The salt connection is well established and probably increases blood pressure through water retention and by decreasing the diameter of the small blood vessels.
- Obtaining adequate aerobic exercise.
- Maintaining a body weight close to your ideal body weight. Other than high blood pressure, the normal companions of obesity are sedentary living, high blood fats and diabetes.
- Maintaining normal levels of blood lipids. Reduce the intake of saturated fats and cholesterol and maintain a high level of aerobic fitness.
- Minimizing the amount of emotional stress in your life. If you can't change the facts of your life, a new perspective on your situation might make your life less stressful.

General factors undoubtedly contribute to hypertension in some cases, but much more often an individual's lifestyle causes high blood pressure. Poor dietary habits which lead to obesity, high salt intake, high blood lipids, sedentary living and high levels of tension can be reversed. It is possible for the entire family to turn its history of hypertension around through improvements in lifestyle.

Marriott still unbeaten in Little League

AMMAN (Star) — At the end of the fifth week of the Amman Little League soccer competition which is taking place at the American Community School, Marriott Hotel team continue its lead in the seniors division with 8 points, two clear points ahead of Holiday Inn. AIK top the Mids with 7 points while International Traders lead in the Juniors with 7 points. All the three top teams in the various divisions are yet to lose a match. So far, the Marriott team has won all four matches played. There are four more matches left for the league to end.

Fixtures for Friday 14 October are as follows:

Field One
0900 Foxboro vs Internat. Traders
1025 American Exp. vs Telcom
1150 Arab Wings vs Grindlays
1325 ALICO vs Astra

Field Two
Ericsson vs Intercon
Abaha vs Royal Falcons
AIK vs Jordan Exp.
Al-Ahlyah vs Volvo



The team of the Royal Jordanian Falcons in the Juniors division. Third from right in the front row is His Royal Highness Prince Ali.

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Intimate Starcasts

By Henry Arnold

Week commencing 13 October, 1983

CAPRICORN — December 21st to January 19th

You should feel very heartened during this coming week, by a decision arrived at by a member of the opposite sex, concerning the two of you. However, you would be wise not to let your mind dwell completely on your romantic life, as there are indications of advancement in your working life if you play your cards right. You would do better to humour a relative who has strong-minded ideas of which you do not think very highly.

AQUARIUS — January 20th to February 18th

You may find that a member of the opposite sex is behaving rather snappily this week, and feel rather hurt in consequence, but it would be a good thing to remember that they are usually devoted to you, and make allowances for the fact that they have been under some strain just lately. Where your financial position is concerned, the indications are that this could take a turn very much for the better.

PISCES — February 19th to March 20th

You may find that a member of the opposite sex is behaving rather snappily this week, and feel rather hurt in consequence, but it would be a good thing to remember that they have been under some strain just lately. Where your financial position is concerned, the indications are that this could take a turn very much for the better.

ARIES — March 21st to April 20th

You would be very well advised to take heed of some extremely sensible advice which could be given to you by a colleague at some time during this week, which could avoid a loss of money which you can ill afford at the moment. A most enjoyable and unexpected treat from a member of the opposite sex should be the high spot of your coming week. An elderly relative could be rather annoying this week.

TAURUS — April 21st to May 20th

Whilst things are not terribly wrong for you during this coming week, the indications are that they are not all that favourable either, so it would be just as well for you not to expect too much. Keep your own counsel where any future plans are concerned. This way, you can avoid irritations and try your best, at all times, in all fields, to take things more easily, for you may not be feeling absolutely up to par.

GEMINI — May 21st to June 20th

A rather meddlesome member of your family could attempt to persuade you to get involved in a slight dispute. It would be much better for you to be as firm as possible, and remain neutral and not waver. Where your working life is concerned, a person of much influence should show their past appreciation of your efforts by not only words, but deeds also, and you should finish your week off feeling very happy.

CANCER — June 21st to July 21st

During this coming week, the indications are that you will receive a very flattering compliment around mid-week, leading to an interesting invitation, and although you may feel some hesitation at first, it would be much better if you were to accept it. It will be to your advantage and could lead on to better things. An affair of the heart which may have been slightly up and down of late should at least settle down.

LEO — July 22nd to August 21st

You could receive a flattering gift during this coming week, from a person whom you had thought would be far too busy to remember you. You would be very well advised to try not to make any changes during this coming week, and leave your arrangements to stand as they are, or you may find that a rather difficult atmosphere could arise. You may find that this is an unusually busy week, due to the arrival of a visitor.

VIRGO — August 22nd to September 21st

A new association may be formed in your private life during this coming week, which will bring you direct gains for the future. The steadiness of purpose which you feel should get you through a good deal of work during this week, and you should find yourself receiving plenty of recognition for your efforts. Remember to stick firmly to your own opinions, as someone may try to mislead you.

LIBRA — September 22nd to October 22nd

You will be well rewarded if you make an effort to be a little more attentive to a near one who you know has been feeling slightly neglected of late. This should be a fairly quiet week in most directions and could be a very good time for catching up on correspondence and other little odd jobs. You would be very well advised to avoid making any impulsive promises where your emotions are concerned this week.

SCORPIO — October 23rd to November 21st

Where domestic affairs are concerned, this could be a very rewarding week for you in this direction, and the possible arrival of an unexpected visitor could take up a lot of your time, but very pleasantly. You should find that a romance goes along very smoothly, because you please a member of the opposite sex. Certain plans which you have in mind tend to go a little astray, but try not to let this worry you.

SAGITTARIUS — November 22nd to December 20th

Things may have been just a little trying at work recently, but now is the time to use your personality to bring about a brighter atmosphere all round. Do not say anything which you don't really mean just now, or you could very easily find yourself hurting an old friend and regret it very much. A loved one's suggestions about a new hobby will meet with your approval, but it may turn out to be quite expensive.

Thursday 13 October

Birthday Greetings to You. You may have an offer to travel quite a long distance in December or January, and although this would mean quite an alteration in your plans, it would be well worth it, for you should make a new circle of friends as well as meeting up with some very influential people.

Family problems may be rather difficult during the next few weeks, but with your natural tact, you should be able to sort out matters satisfactorily. However, do not let people become too dependent on you.

Where your health is concerned, you have probably been worrying during the past two or three months, but there is every indication that your health will show great improvements during the coming year, and you should feel really fit and well by the time you reach your next birthday.

Friday 14 October

Birthday Greetings to You. During the next six months, there are definite signs that several long-awaited changes may be coming your way. Don't try to hurry them along, but rather let them take their time, and in this way, you should have no regrets afterwards.

In your working life, you may have to put in some hard work in connection with your career during the next three months, but in February, you should have an offer of promotion for which you have been waiting.

Your personal life should run very smoothly during the coming twelve months, except perhaps in April, when news from a friend could distress you a little. However, this should soon blow over.

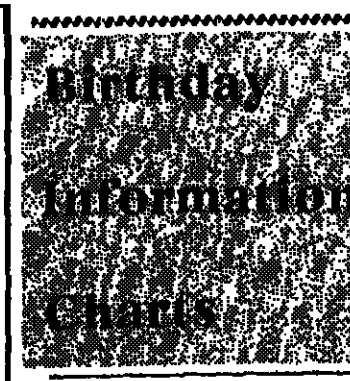
For both old and young, a really gay and exciting social life is indicated, and for the young and eligible, romance should be much in the air.

Saturday 15 October

Birthday Greetings to You. During the next two months, do try not to be over-sensitive for this could play on your nerves, and thus cause your health to suffer slightly. However, apart from this, your health should be satisfactory throughout the coming year.

Romance should be very much in the air for the young and eligible ones amongst you and there may be talk of an engagement or even a marriage around the January period. For the older ones, there are signs of a very gay and happy social life during the coming twelve months.

Your financial affairs should be quite a lot better after you have got through February, and on the whole, your personal life should be extremely satisfactory.



Monday 17 October

Birthday Greetings to You. Family problems may become a little pressing towards the end of January, and in this direction, you would be well advised to seek the advice of a trusted friend who has helped you before. However, this matter should soon blow over and family affairs will then run smoothly once again.

Towards the end of February, an acquaintance may put an unusual proposition to you which could involve some travel, and by accepting this, there could be in the long run, quite a lot of prosperity for you.

Your personal life may have been a little worrying over the past few months, but there is every indication that things should run much more smoothly in this direction from February onwards. Also, your social life should now begin to look up and you should be having really enjoyable time with a new circle of friends.

Tuesday 18 October

Birthday Greetings to You. This should be a year in which you will feel much more secure than you have done for a very long while, as your recent hard work should reap rewards for you in the very near future.

You may have an unexpected opportunity to travel some time during this coming year, but instead of jumping at this scheme, you should give the matter considerable thought, for it could change the whole pattern of your life.

You may be slightly anxious towards the end of January about your relationship with a member of your family, with whom you have never really seen eye to eye, but there is every indication that affairs in this direction will soon be sorted out and you should feel very much happier.

Wednesday 19 October

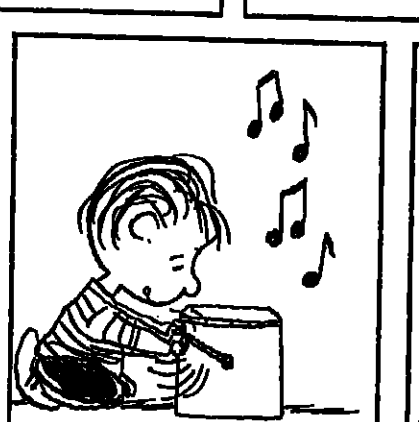
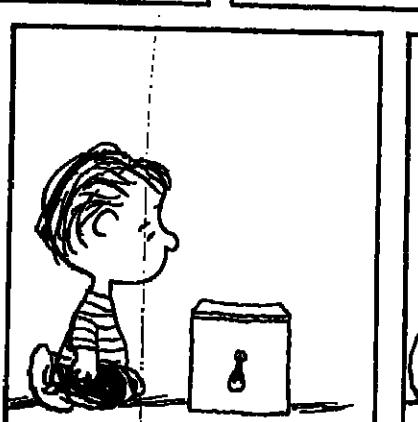
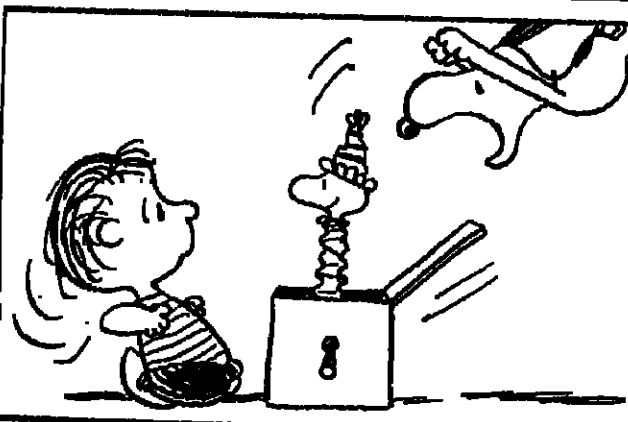
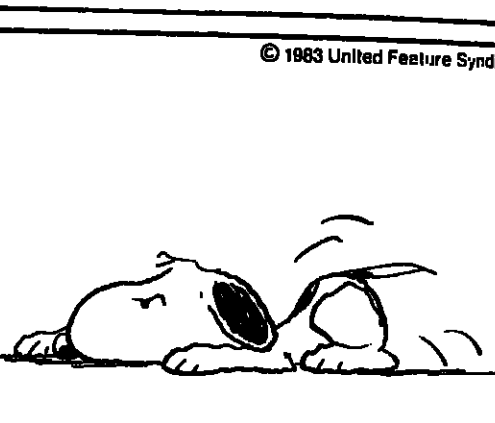
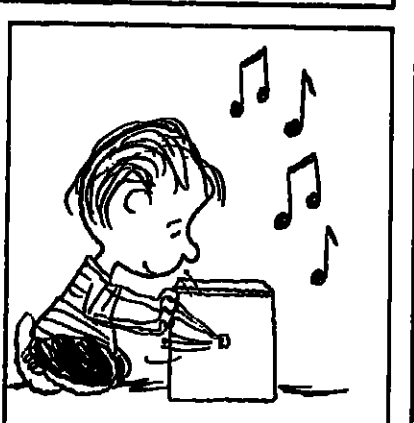
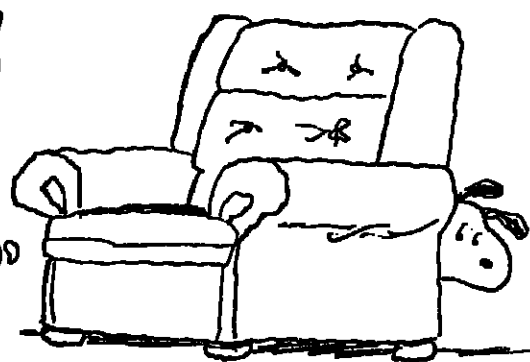
Birthday Greetings to You. A personal problem which you may have, and which could have been causing you a little worry of late should straighten itself out during the next two or three months, but you would be well advised to try and have patience with someone very close and dear to you. They have been, at times, a little foolish by being over-cautious, but they have meant well, and in the end, you should both be seeing eye to eye in a very good manner.

You will find that travel could play an important part in your life next month.

You would be well advised to ask the advice of someone in a higher and more responsible position than yourself, before you embark on any wild venture.

PEANUTS

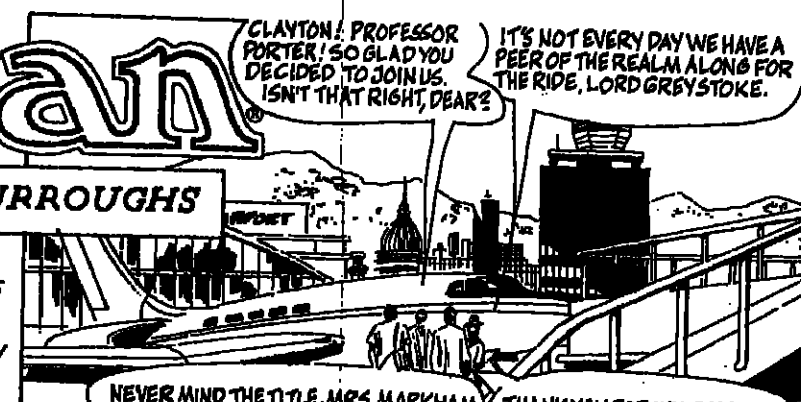
featuring
"Good ol'
Charlie Brown"
by SCHULZ



Tarzan

by EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

JOHN CLAYTON (LORD GREYSTOKE) AND HIS FATHER-IN-LAW, PROFESSOR ARCHIMEDES PORTER, DEPART FROM SINGAPORE AFTER AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL EXPEDITION IN INDONESIA. AUTUMN IS APPROACHING AND WITH IT, THE MONSOON RAINS.



NEVER MIND THE TITLE, MRS. MARKHAM. JOHN CLAYTON WILL DO.

THANK YOU FOR INVITING US, MR. AND MRS. MARKHAM.

WITH REGULAR AIR TRAFFIC TEMPORARILY OUT OF SERVICE AFTER A MONSOON RAIN, LORD GREYSTOKE AND PROFESSOR PORTER ARE GLAD TO JOIN AUSTRALIAN MILLIONAIRES, EDDIE AND LUCY MARKHAM, ON THEIR PRIVATE JET BOUND FOR SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.

SO YOUR WIFE IS MEETING YOU IN SYDNEY, EH, GREYSTOKE'S?

AND FROM THERE, IT'S HOME TO AFRICA FOR US.

AND I'LL BE RETURNING TO BALTIMORE.

HANS VANDERDORT, THE PILOT, HAS RECEIVED A WEATHER REPORT FROM DARWIN, AUSTRALIA.

AND THERE'S A STORM FRONT MOVING IN FAST, MR. MARKHAM.

IT'S TOO LATE TO TURN BACK FOR SINGAPORE. WE'LL HAVE TO TRY TO REACH DARWIN.

THAT'S JUST MARVELOUS!

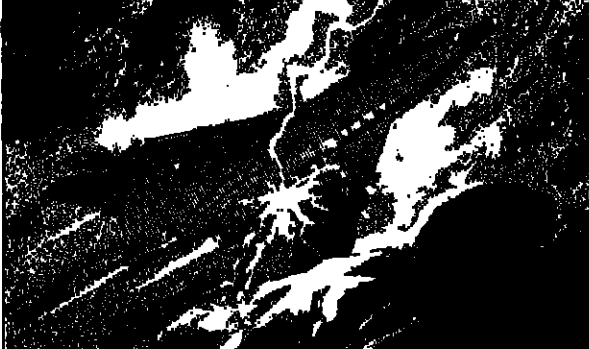


YOU SHOULD STAY WITH US FOR A WHILE. WE'LL DO OUR BEST TO ENTERTAIN YOU, LORD JOHN.

THE PILOT MAKES A FORCED LANDING IN THE JAVA SEA. THE PLANE COMES DOWN ON A BARRIER REEF OFF THE SHORES OF AN UNCHARTED ISLAND.



THE SUDDEN FURY OF AN EARLY MONSOON DRIVES THE PLANE OFF COURSE.



THE CORAL REEF RIPS OPEN THE FUSELAGE. AS THE PLANE COMES TO REST, TARZAN TAKES COMMAND.



FRANK AND ERNEST

